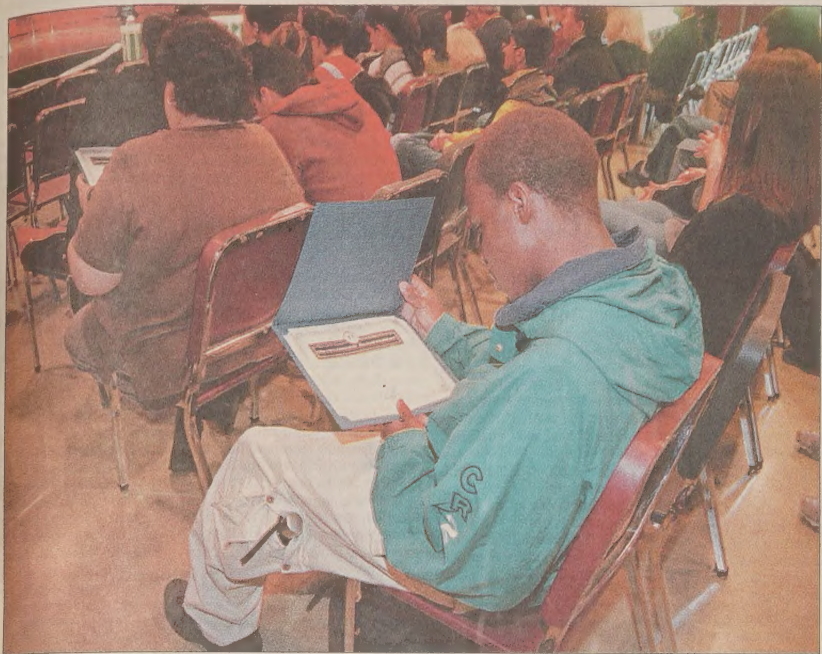


THE JOURNAL

Friday, February 11, 2000 • 50 cents (tax included)

Inside Clock ticking on El Cerrito BART garage decision [A3]

Sports Signing day brings relief for local athletes, parents [C1]



Honoring achievement

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL junior Seyi Akanni looks at his Outstanding Achievement Award in physics and Spanish III during ceremonies for standout underclassmen at the school's Little Theater last Friday.

JOANNA JHANDA

Economic plan awaits a leader

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—We don't just have a strategy—we don't just have a plan—El Cerrito now has an economic development strategy and action plan.

This week the City Council unanimously adopted the economic development plan developed and recommended by the Economic Development Task Force. They also voted unanimously to set up an Economic Development Commission and directed staff to work to de-

fine "duties and responsibilities" for an economic development manager to be hired in the future.

Whoever this superman or superwoman turns out to be, many in the city clearly hope she or he will lead El Cerrito into a brave new entrepreneurial world of economic and financial vigor.

There was a sense of community dreams, direction and a desire to "keep the momentum going" at Monday night's

See PLAN, Page A12

Tax hardly proves a windfall

Less than 25 percent of \$1 million assessment funds new programs

By James Carter

ALBANY — Many residents are still scratching their heads, wondering what happened to the \$1 million parcel tax overwhelmingly approved by voters last June, one promoted as a means to es-

tablish more music, arts, theater and sports programs in Albany schools.

"Where's the money?" said Karen Carlson-Olsen, who actively campaigned for the parcel tax initiative last spring. The measure was passed by a large margin and raised over \$1,218,000 in revenue for Albany schools this year.

"When the budget was being developed for this school year, why weren't any alarms sounded to the public saying 'Wait a minute—we're not going to spend any more than \$240,000 on new programs this year?'" said Carlson-Olsen.

See TAX, Page A12

Albany studies change to disabled-parking process

By James Carter

ALBANY — The City Council considered a personal plea and a recommendation from the Traffic and Safety Commission that could create more blue disabled-parking spots around town.

The potential need for more handicapped parking in town came to the forefront when longtime Albany resident Marguerite Gausman petitioned for a disabled parking spot in front of her home on the 400 block of Evelyn Street. Gausman, who is disabled, said it is nearly impossible for her to find a place to park

her car near her home due to the existence of six apartment buildings crowded onto the short block.

"I've got a heart condition, I can't walk, and I can't go to church," said Gausman, who has lived in her home for 47 years. She said she felt "stuck indoors" and can't leave her home for fear of losing a parking spot.

"A lot of people have parking underneath their apartments, but they can't be bothered and park on the street," she said. "One fellow has five cars—he's a

See PARKING, Page A11

First-year principal focuses on new outlook at Albany High

By James Carter

ALBANY — When Gloria Galindo urges students at Albany High School to take advantage of the opportunities education affords, she speaks with authority.

Galindo is in her first year as principal of AHS. Yet as a youth attending high school, Galindo said she "wasn't the best student." In fact, the energetic principal—candid almost to a fault—said she barely graduated from high school, then spent nearly eight years "just wandering around, and not really doing much of anything."

"I saw what happens when you don't have an education," she said recently. "That's one of the reasons I'm very motivated and enjoy talking to high school kids. I try to convince them not to waste time and do what I did—which for years was nothing, really."

Born and raised in what she describes as "a large, traditional Mexican family," Galindo grew up in San Francisco and attended Catholic schools there. As the youngest girl in her family, "I was supposed to do the laundry and the dishes and grow up and have a husband," she said.

"I didn't have the chance to see Hispanic women who did anything but take care of their husbands and children," she said. As a teen becoming a woman, Galindo said there were few Latina role models for her to look up to—with the exception of Dolores Huerta, the United Farm Workers Union vice president.

"And I didn't know much about her, either," said Galindo.

Though she is reluctant to talk about it, during her senior year, Galindo's mother died.

"She'd been dying of breast cancer for a couple of years, but hid it, and nobody knew," Galindo said. "One day she went to the hospital, and we asked my father, 'What's wrong? My father just said she was sick. That's it. My mother was in the hospital for two weeks, then came home, and we just thought—well, she's sick, that's all. One day I came home from school and she was dead. She was 42 years old.'"

For eight years after the death of her

See PRINCIPAL, Page A10



JIM ROSENAU of the Grizzly Peak Cyclists and a regional parks worker assemble one of the Inspiration Point benches at dedication ceremonies on Jan. 29.

STEVE MASLANKA

Cyclists' benches an inspiration

By Chris Treadway

Tilden Park's Inspiration Point now has three benches where hikers and cyclists can enjoy the eastward view thanks to the efforts of Jim Rosenau and his colleagues in the Grizzly Peak Cyclists.

The club donated funds raised during its century rides, where cyclists cover 100 or more miles in club fund-raisers, as well as volunteer time.

Rosenau said gaining clearance for the project was surprisingly easy considering that permission had to be gained from two jurisdictions. The land is owned by EBMUD and managed by the East Bay Regional Park District. Easing the potential bureaucratic tangle was Tilden Park Supervisor Jeff Wilson, "who made it really easy," Rosenau said.

Wilson secured clearances from the two agencies, had his crews work on the preparation of the bench siting and even saw to larger steps that enhanced the



MEMBERS of the Grizzly Peak Cyclists gather at Inspiration Point, Jan. 29, for the dedication of new benches made possible by the club. Pat Greene, right, shares a story with fellow cyclist Will Daniel.

STEVE MASLANKA

INDEX

Calendar	Page C7
Community Folk	Page A2
Crossword	Page C11
School Snapp	Page A9
School Watch	Page A12

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See BENCHES, Page A12

Time's running out for decision on BART garage

By Kate Darby Rauch

EL CERRITO — For more than a decade the money's been sitting there, waiting to be spent. And it's not petty change. The pot holds \$6 million, collecting interest every day.

The pot is the Measure C parking garage fund, fed by a half-cent county sales tax that voters passed in 1988 and earmarked for regional transportation improvements.

The \$6 million was supposed to pay for a sorely needed BART parking garage. Demand for parking at the city's two stations, El Cerrito Plaza and Del Norte, outstrips available spaces during peak hours, leaving residential streets lined with commuter cars.

But to date, all attempts to build a garage have failed for various reasons, from developers pulling out of projects to lack of consensus on the City Council.

Now, facing the real threat that if they don't use it, they'll lose it, city officials are scrambling to decide how to spend the money.

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority, which manages Measure C funds, is warning El Cerrito that plenty of others are eager for its piece of the pie.

"It's time to fish or cut bait," said Councilman Larry Damon. "We can't fool around with this thing any longer."

The council last month asked city staff to investigate options for building a garage, including which locations and types are the most feasible.

The council has made some of its desires clear. It wants a facility that will provide BART parking, but also help city efforts to spur economic growth. A layered block of garage is out. The council is looking for a multipurpose development with street appeal.

"My best-case scenario would be a structure that will enhance our development potential with ground-floor retail," said Mayor Mark Friedman.

Other ideas floated by the council include a garage that could be converted into other uses if the need for parking ever dwindled, or a facility with attendant parking to squeeze more cars into a smaller space.

There's also interest in forgetting about a garage and using the Measure C money to bolster bus service to and from the city's BART stations. That would serve commuters without adding the congestion of a new development, Damon said.

Councilwoman Gina Brusatori con-

siders. "What we have not ruled out because it's so attractive would be to put the money toward increased bus service," she said.

The council may not have ruled out the bus idea, but Bob McCleary, executive director of the county transportation authority, said it's a highly unlikely possibility.

The language of Measure C specifies that a portion of the funds, the \$6 million, is for a parking garage in El Cerrito, he said. Using it for bus service would require an amendment that the board probably won't approve, he said.

"It's not the city's money. It's the county's money designated for a specific purpose."

Measure C is a 20-year tax, ending in 2007. It currently earns about \$54 million a year. Projects funded by it include the Richmond Parkway and the BART extension to East Contra Costa County.

McCleary said he is supportive of El Cerrito's ideas to create more than just a garage.

Yet time is of the essence, he said. While there is no set deadline for using the garage money, the transportation authority board could decide that the project is taking too long to materialize and that the cash

would be better spent elsewhere, he said.

Meanwhile, the El Cerrito council has directed the city staff to focus on three possible locations for a BART garage: in the existing parking area of the BART station across from the El Cerrito Plaza shopping center; west of the Del Norte station across San Pablo Avenue near Interstate 80; and in the central area of the city near City Hall and Moers Lane. The latter location would include a bus or shuttle system, carrying people to and from BART.

The city's most recent attempt to use Measure C funds ground to a halt in 1997 when the developer of an ambitious project to revitalize the El Cerrito Plaza suddenly pulled out of the deal to put the garage on plaza land.

Developers of the present plaza renovation, scheduled to begin soon, made clear from the beginning they are not interested in a joint effort with the city to build BART parking.

At the same time, the start of Plaza renovations will mean the eviction of the cars of hundreds of commuters who now park in the center's lot. That, in turn, will increase the number of cars seeking parking in neighborhoods.

IN BRIEF

Greenway clean up

It's time again to make the Ohlone Greenway a little greener. Sustainable El Cerrito and the El Cerrito Police Department are combining forces on weed and litter patrol along the Greenway. On Saturday, Feb. 12, and Sunday, March 11, 9-11 a.m. on both days, join police and sustainable folk as they weed, prune, pick up litter and generally restore, clean up and improve the Greenway. If it's raining on the above dates, Feb. 19 and March 18 are the alternative work party days. Meet on the Greenway at Potrero Avenue.

No experience is required and everyone is welcome. Bring work gloves and tools if you have them.

"These are part of the continuing efforts to identify and abate conditions along the Greenway that detract from its appearance and foster user concerns about personal security," Interim Police Chief Peter Sarna reported about the clean up. "Police department staff will be supporting and participating in both work parties."

Call Lori Dair of Sustainable El Cerrito at 232-6466 for more information, or e-mail: loridair@earthlink.net.

Under new management

Bruce King has been named El Cerrito's new Maintenance and Engineering Services Division manager. King had served as the interim manager for the past five months.

"Bruce applied for the position in an open-competitive process and was the best qualified individual," said Community Development Manager Gerald Raycraft. King has worked for the city since 1995.

"I am confident he will continue to give the city the same high quality service that he has provided in the past," Raycraft said.

Fire talk

Fire Chief Mark Scott reported last week that the Fire Department is expanding its community fire prevention education efforts. Scott said the successful "Learn Not To Burn" fire safety program for children in kindergarten through sixth grade is expanding for use throughout the school year.

"Previously we confined our educational efforts to the weeks preceding Fire Prevention Week in October," Scott said.

Scott reported that Firefighter Teresa Pace is also making rounds at Kensington and El Cerrito senior programs to deliver both fire safety and fall prevention messages as part of the "Remember When" program.

"Senior citizens and children under 5 years of age are far more likely to die in fires at home than any other age categories," Scott said. "Falls are a major cause of injury to our senior citizen population. Many falls result in emergency calls to the Fire Department," he said.

Lights and siren

Fire Chief Mark Scott and others

are working to improve ambulance response times in Kensington and southeast El Cerrito.

"Ambulance response time to Kensington meets the county standard of less than 10 minutes only about 45 percent of the time," Scott said in a report last week to the City Council and city manager.

The contracted ambulance service provider, American Medical Response, must meet the 10-minute standard on 95 percent of West County calls overall, Scott said.

"AMR meets the standard at 96 percent or 97 percent every month," he said. AMR is not obligated to meet the response time standard in every area of West County, Scott said.

"We have worked closely with AMR over the last year and have implemented several response strategies that we thought would reduce response times," Scott said. "None of the strategies have worked."

"Last month we appeared before the Contra Costa Emergency Medical Services review committee and made an appeal that all communities should receive advanced life support medical care," Scott said. In East Contra Costa, Scott said, the EMS office has funded incremental costs of a paramedic program for areas with extended ambulance response times.

"The program is very successful," he said.

The county EMS office, AMR and the El Cerrito Fire Department have agreed to study having the EMS office or AMR fund incremental costs of funding an engine company paramedic program for the Kensington fire station, Scott said.

A county fire chiefs' report on funding an engine company paramedic program county-wide is due out this spring. "Implementation of the county chiefs' program, if adopted, would take several years," Scott said. "At this time, I am cautiously optimistic that the EMS office, AMR and ECFD can reach agreements on a local program that will bring a resolution of the Kensington/southeast El Cerrito situation sooner."

AUSD sets fall kindergarten registration

The Albany Unified School District will register children for admission to kindergarten for the fall of 2000 on Wednesday, Feb. 16, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Veterans' Memorial Building, 1325 Portland Ave. Starting Feb. 17, children can register at Ocean View, Marin, or Cornell schools.

Also, children in grades first through fifth who currently reside in Albany need to register at this time.

Children must be age 5 on or before December 2000 and must show a birth certificate as proof.

Also required are proofs of residence, including a home deed or rental agreement with phone num-

ber for verification, and two other proofs such as a driver's license and a utility bill.

Registering your child at the closest school does not guarantee assignment to that school. Many factors are considered in student assignment.

For kindergarten registration, par-

ents must bring the child's certified birth certificate, baptismal certificate or passport and be prepared to fill out health forms concerning vaccinations, immunizations, and childhood diseases.

Documentation of the dates of immunizations for polio, DTP, measles (Rubeola), mumps, rubella (German measles), and Hepatitis B for each kindergarten child is required. No child can enter kindergarten next fall unless s/he has had these immunizations.

Minimum doses required for Polio are four, as long as the third dose was received after the fourth birthday; and four doses for DTP, as long as the fourth dose was also received after the fourth birthday.

Measles, rubella, and mumps (MMR) require two doses, provided they were both received after the first birthday.

Out of district applications will be accepted beginning May 1.



CATHERINE SCHUTZ
COLGAN plays Elwood P. Dowd and Danielle Levin plays Ruth Kelly in the Contra Costa Civic Theatre production of "Harvey," which plays at 8 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, through Feb. 26. Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. on Feb. 13. Tickets: \$10 general admission, \$6 youth 16 and under. Call 510-524-9132 for reservations or more information.

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Tel Aviv	\$374	San Juan	\$202

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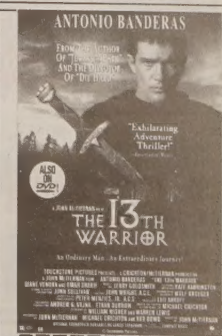
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ALBANY PTA NEWS

By Kay Weinstein

Attention online shoppers: Support AHS or AMS by going to www.schoolpop.org to access 125 merchants. Up to 20 percent of every purchase goes back to your school.

Albany PTA Council

■ Feb. 12, AMS curriculum meeting CANCELLED
 ■ Feb. 25, regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., AMS Library
 ■ March 25, Parent University, 8:30 a.m.-noon, AMS Library; a day of workshops for parents of elementary, middle school and high school students. 8:30 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. keynote speaker, 10 a.m. workshop, 11 a.m. workshop

Albany High School

SCRIP Orders: Safeway and Andronico's scrip must be purchased from eScrip (800-400-7878). We are selling Natural Grocery scrip. Call Karen Moss at 526-2018 or Linda Okamoto at 525-6782. E-mail Linda at cho.prn.lo@cho.org

belum@pacbell.net

■ Feb. 12, Winter Ball at H's Lordships's. Adult chaperones needed. Call Janice Hickey at 559-6550, ext. 4111 or e-mail jmpmmp@aol.com
 ■ Feb. 14, Site Council meeting, 6 p.m., AHS Main Office
 ■ Feb. 15, Athletic Boosters meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Room 40
 ■ Feb. 18, Lady Cougars Basketball Raffle Drawing; a fund-raiser for new uniforms for AHS Women's Basketball (JV and Varsity). Tickets cost \$1 for one, \$5 for six and \$10 for 13. Call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782 or e-mail Linda at cho.prn.lo@cho.org

Albany Middle School

■ SCRIP Orders: Purchase Safeway and Andronico's scrip from eScrip (800-400-7878). We are selling Natural Grocery scrip. Call Karen Moss at 526-2018 or Linda Okamoto at 525-6782. E-mail Linda at cho.prn.lo@cho.org
 ■ Feb. 11, 7-8-grade ESL luncheon
 ■ Feb. 16, Eighth-Grade Parents Information Night, 7 p.m., AHS Little Theater

■ Feb. 17, Site Council Meeting, 6 p.m., AMS Library

Cornell Elementary

SCRIP sales: Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScrip (800-400-7878). Andronico's scrip may be purchased from eScrip, or paper scrip may be purchased at school. Natural Grocery and Berkeley Bowl SCRIP for sale Wednesday and Friday, 8:15 a.m.-8:45 a.m., and Wednesday after school.
 ■ Feb. 16, PTA meeting, 6:30 p.m.
 ■ Feb. 17, Site Council meeting

Marin Elementary School

SCRIP for sale Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings before school, at both early and late bird times, and Wednesday after school. Orders can be placed in office at any time. Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScrip (800-400-7878). Andronico's scrip can be purchased from eScrip, or paper scrip can be purchased at school.
 ■ Feb. 17, Site Council meeting

Ocean View Elementary

SCRIP for sale Monday, Wednesday

and Friday mornings before school on playground. Ask for Kim Denton. Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScrip.

■ Feb. 17, Site Council meeting, 7 p.m., Ocean View Library

AUSD Board of Education

■ Feb. 15, community meeting to discuss developing an administrative regulation on parent involvement, facilitated by Marianne Camp, director of Curriculum and Instruction, 7-9 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

■ Feb. 16, kindergarten registration, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Albany Veteran's Memorial Building, 1325 Portland; bring proof of Albany residency. After Feb. 16, new students can register at elementary school closest to their residence. Information regarding immunization requirements and documents may be obtained from elementary schools.
 ■ Feb. 18, President's Day, NO SCHOOL
 ■ Feb. 21, President's Day, NO SCHOOL

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Opinion

VIEWPOINT

Teachers an important part of the equation

By David De Hart

Congratulations fellow Albany teachers. We had high scores and number 10 rankings for every school in the district in the state's new Academic Performance Index.

We could all debate whether the test used truly measures good teaching and successful schools, especially when the state factored in the scores of students with limited English proficiency. What is clear is good teachers are essential to schools that earned a rate of 10. Most likely, those same schools serve middle- to upper-middle class communities, enjoy strong support from parents who raise great kids, have strong administrators who encourage faculty input and decision making, and pay teachers a good salary. We teachers of Albany Unified are good teachers doing an excellent job who will always strive to do better because we care and we are professionals.

Anyone who has attended only one or perhaps many school board meetings might ask the question, "Why am I here tonight?" I certainly have, but I always had an answer, the memo-

rable words of my mentor and friend, Charlie Clarke: "If the president doesn't attend every school board meeting, then who is going to represent the teachers on any given night?"

An oversight of a board member at the last meeting drove this lesson home.

After an administrator announced the test scores, a board member praised the students, their parents and the community. After taking the microphone and supporting the comments made, I pointed out to the board that a vital ingredient to the rankings went unmentioned—Good teachers who need to be given positive recognition verbally and monetarily.

Six years working in factories taught me the importance of unions. Joining together is the only way to ensure our stake in the partnership of education which includes children, parents and teachers.

You all deserve praise and your negotiating team is working hard on your behalf to get the remuneration that shows you are appreciated by the entire community as well.

David De Hart is president of the Albany Teachers Association



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Teachers' pay doesn't keep pace

Albany has long been a community that supports its schools. Last year, a parent committee (which included one teacher) worked diligently to pass a parcel tax. The measure brought badly-needed funds to the district to help preserve and add programs for students.

This same committee and other members of the community were outraged when informed that a portion of the funds was used to retain teachers.

They angrily asserted that "the parcel tax money was not to be used for teachers' salaries." It seems that there is an important ingredient missing here: there can be no programs without teachers.

To a great extent, teachers are the programs. The language "not to be used for teachers' salaries" is offensive and disrespectful toward teachers. Some teachers feel that they are now the target of parental outrage.

The community needs to be reminded that Albany Schools have always had dedicated teachers who genuinely care about their students. These teachers are not in the profession for the money.

However, it is becoming ever more difficult to make ends meet in the costly Bay Area on salaries that lag far behind the salaries of other professionals. Some school districts are now resorting to measures like subsidized housing and bonuses to attract and retain new teachers. Albany has many

new, young teachers who find it difficult to pay rents and impossible to purchase a home here. How can the district continue to attract qualified teachers when they cannot afford to live in or near the community?

Why do teachers feel that they are always last when it comes to budgeting money for salary increases? The salary inequity between the teaching profession and other professions, e.g. law, engineering, business, accounting, was brought home to me in a recent conversation I had with my daughter.

She is beginning her second year as a lawyer in a San Francisco law firm. When she said she would soon be getting a large salary increase due to the booming economy, my parent side asked: "And how much would that be?" When she casually replied \$25,000 to \$30,000 on top of her already substantial salary, I dropped the glass I was holding.

After regaining my composure, my teacher side said: "Though you are just beginning your career, you feel valued for your education and expertise. On the other hand, many veteran teachers like me feel that our considerable education, experience and expertise are not valued, since our salaries are so low."

I have been thinking a lot about our conversation lately, and I am reminded that my daughter is a former Albany High School student who has been successful in large part because of dedicated, able teachers like Elizabeth Kline, David DeHart, Don DePasquale and Richard Lohman, to name only a few. Besides excelling in the classroom, these veteran

teachers continue to fight for liveable salaries and respect for teachers as professionals. It has been a long and discouraging struggle. When teachers do get a raise, it is often 1 or 2 percent, far below the cost of inflation.

If the Bay Area economy is booming, why can't some of this wealth be shared with teachers, who play such a critical role in educating our young people for productive careers in that economy.

The Albany School District, of course, is not solely responsible for teachers' low salaries, since its budget depends heavily on monies coming from the state.

Unfortunately, these monies are not sufficient to support the kinds of schools that Albany needs and deserves. In this era of state budget surpluses, the governor and legislature need to provide substantially more funds for schools (California currently allots \$1000 less per student than the average state). They need to allow and encourage school districts to raise teachers' salaries if they hope to attract and retain qualified new teachers and honor teachers who have been in the profession for the long haul, who value and love what they do. Let's face it: we are always willing to pay for the things in life that we value.

So I say to parents and other residents, thank you for your tireless work raising money for Albany Schools. Now let us all join together to convince the governor and legislators to substantially increase the money they are appropriating for schools and for teachers. It is time for all to acknowledge that quality schools cost money

and to recognize that good teachers are the main ingredient in quality schools.

It is time also to pay teachers properly for their professional expertise and experience and for the dedicated work they do every day for Albany's children.

Barbara Brunetti,
Teacher, Albany Unified
School District

Objection to school play a narrow-sighted view

As the parent of two grown daughters, both former Marin School students, I feel compelled to respond to Deborah Godner's letter, "Unintentional racism in our schools." In her self-appointed role as arbiter of social correctness, Godner could not have chosen an easier or more fragile target than a grade-school musical.

With indignation and self-righteousness, she accuses Marin School staff of "passing down" a false history of an "exciting and hopeful" Goldrush period, all the while "knowing the horrific realities" of genocide, slavery and "environmental destruction" which she says existed at that time. Godner might want to check her facts about how many of the "horrific realities" she cites actually occurred during the Goldrush, and not before.

She concocts a ridiculous piece of hyperbole in which she describes an imaginary play about Nazis sharing moments of camaraderie and attempts to draw an obvious comparison to the Goldrush playlet. When I started to read her letter, I had the

impression that the kids had been singing "Springtime for Hitler" instead of "Oh, My Darlin', Clementine."

Never once does Godner comment about the amount of time or work by the director, school staff, parents or, more importantly, the children that obviously went into putting on this production.

Godner is correct in one thing — that throughout American history there have been evils and atrocities which cry out to be exposed and discussed. Unfortunately, the Deborah Godners of this world have neither the finesse nor rhetorical technique to do it effectively. Anyone reading her letter would rightly dismiss it as just further ranting by the PC Police.

Had Godner genuinely wanted to bring about some kind of reform at Marin School, would it not have been sufficient for her to bring her concerns to the staff? Other than calling attention to herself, I cannot imagine her motivation for addressing this sensitive issue in such a public forum as a letter to the editor.

Unless things have changed drastically in the past few years, my memory of the Marin School instructors is that they are extremely hip, well-educated and sensitive people. I doubt that they need Godner to point out the shames of our history to them.

I clearly remember these issues being dealt with in my own children's fourth- and fifth-grade classes and how proud I was when they came home at 9 and 10 years of age with a deep abhorrence of exactly the kind of social injustice to which Godner refers.

Rick B. Robinson

MEASURE A

Ballot statement for Measure A

This is the official Ballot Statement in Support of Measure A on file with the El Cerrito city clerk.

The El Cerrito community is coming together to finally address long-standing infrastructure needs by putting Measure A on the ballot by a unanimous vote of the City Council. Its passage will affirm that we are a city moving forward together and not a city in decline.

For the first time in recent years, every major political group in the city has reached consensus and enthusiastically supports Measure A. Why?

Because Measure A will: Create a designated infrastructure fund out of existing revenue to be used primarily for road repair, seismic upgrades, and preparing for fires and disasters. This fund will not require you to pay any additional taxes. Set a fixed rate of a maximum of

approximately \$58 a year per house for immediate infrastructure and recreational needs and will sunset after 20 years, but the facilities it funds will be around far longer.

Renovate a deteriorating swim center that will serve our community for 40 years.

Restore park clubhouses and give seniors, scouts, people with disabilities, children and adults wonderful places to gather and learn. These clubhouses have been closed for years due to seismic and safety hazards.

The El Cerrito Citizen's Alliance has opposed a number of previously proposed taxes that we felt were not in the interest of the taxpayers.

We enthusiastically support this measure because in addition to attending to the immediate problems of the pool and parks, section 10 of

this bond issue mandates that the city spend significant sums on other infrastructure needs (streets, buildings etc.) without additional taxes.

This 20-year mandate can only be modified by the voters, not by any council, thereby ensuring that the long neglected needs of the city will be addressed.

The above statement is on file in the city clerk's office and is signed by: Margaret A. Collins, Mayor Mark Friedman, El Cerrito Gators President Michele Jawad, El Cerrito Citizen's Alliance co-coordinator Steve B. Magyary and Arthur E. Schroeder. Rebuttal Arguments Against Measure A, on file with the city clerk, will be published in next week's Journal.

Ballot statement against Measure A

This is the official Arguments Against Ordinance No. 99-8 (Measure A), on file with the El Cerrito City Clerk.

El Cerrito residents face an estimated \$35 million for streets, roads, public building repairs.

Since the 1980s, El Cerrito has allocated less than 2 percent annually for this purpose. Although the current budget is over \$15 million, the imbalance between funding for services and infrastructure needs has raised the price tag sharply higher with each passing year.

However, rather than look at our needs as a whole, obtain realistic estimates, priorities, the council has placed, despite widely varying estimates, a bond measure before you for \$4.9 million for swim center, and a modest park rehabilitation for approximately \$350,000.

We urge you to reject this hastily

and poorly conceived measure because:

The council has yet to explore alternative, more viable, creative solutions.

Indexing future maintenance to the real property transfer tax is in itself "volatile and hard to predict year to year" that has been successfully challenged in court as unconstitutional, and in danger of disappearing, would cause serious problems.

Projecting a continuous boom-time scenario of \$700,000 from the transfer tax is unrealistic. It would still require a series of additional bond measures.

The swim center is used by less than 7 percent of El Cerrito residents. The rest come from neighboring communities.

The 20-year parcel tax is the more expensive way to finance the renovation of an outdoor pool.

Although the council rejected an indoor therapeutic pool, most appropriate in our cool climate and of particular benefit to our aging and disabled populations, seniors still bear the brunt of this new 20-year/\$1,200 tax.

The means tested, bureaucratic "exemptions" would make it extremely difficult for seniors to opt out. Yet there are exemptions for absentee landlords and the Mira Vista Country Club. No means testing here!

We need a better, more equitable solution.

The above statement is on file in the city clerk's office and is signed by: Linda C. Blum, Evelyn Kiresen and Bob Winslow. The official rebuttal to this statement, on file with the city clerk, will be published in next week's Journal.

GENERAL MANAGER • RUTH MARICICH
EDITOR • CHRIS TREADWAY

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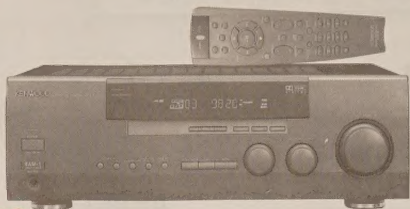
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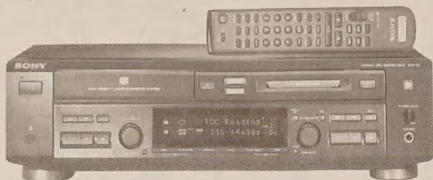
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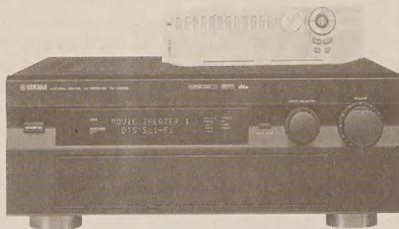
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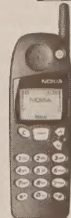
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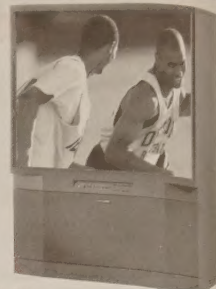
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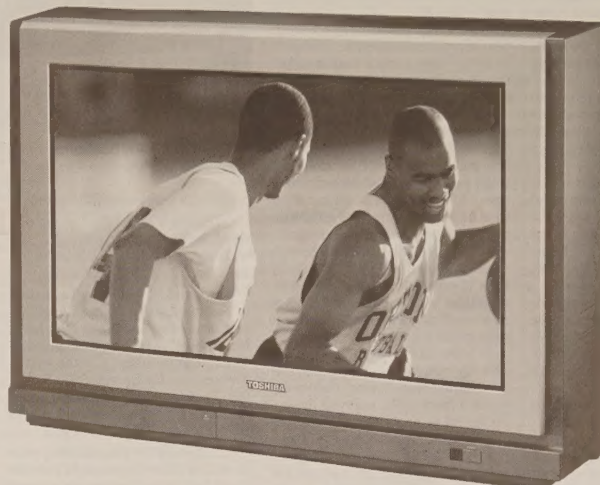
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Klinger sees bright future for El Cerrito business

Newly-installed Chamber of Commerce President Michael Klinger sounded a strong note of optimism about the outlook for business in his inaugural address to members of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce.

"This is an exciting time to be in business," he told a packed house at the chamber's annual installation and awards dinner late last month.

"We are in the midst of an economic expansion the likes of which none of us have ever seen," Klinger said. "Continued low unemployment, mild inflation, low interest rates and a government seemingly committed to keeping our economy on this track."

"More people working and low interest rates means that people have more money to spend and what better place to spend their dollars than El Cerrito, right?"

The new chamber president went on to point out that we will "hopefully" soon have a new El Cerrito Plaza.

"If we can figure out a way to get traffic moving in and out of El Cerrito, via the freeway," Klinger said, "this will be a major plus for all of us."

He went on to tell the audience that thanks largely to some of the chamber's members, economic development is on the verge of becoming a new entity within the city.

"This can and will help the business community and benefit all the residents of El Cerrito, he said.

Klinger concluded by saying he "looks forward to continuing the successful programs that we have already initiated and to seeing what else we can do to benefit our members and the residents of the El Cerrito area."

New members join

Kate Gilpin, owner of the Richmond home-based business Words Into Print, has become the El Cerrito Chamber's newest member.

According to Gilpin, Words Into Print offers a broad spectrum of services ranging from assistance with family history, memoirs, biography, fiction and poetry to biochemistry, computer science, psychology, health, architectural specifications and business documentation.

Gilpin points out she has over 20 years of experience in writing and editing, and offers fast service and reasonable rates. She offers pickup and delivery service, and a courtesy initial consultation may be arranged by telephoning 236-0919.

Two more early renewals

Two more members have added their names to the list of those who are among the first to reinvest in the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce.

The directors would like to thank Margie Myers and Tradeway Stores for showing their support by joining this organization for another year.

Talk of tax measure

Mayor Pro-tem Larry Damon will be guest speaker at the Feb. 28 business luncheon of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce.

At this session, which is scheduled for noon at Little Ange's Restaurant and Tavern at 6115 Potrero Ave., Damon will speak on "The Case for Measure A."

Measure A on the March 7 El Cerrito ballot calls on property owners to pay approximately \$58 annually for 20 years to renovate the local swim center, rehabilitate Canyon Trail Clubhouse, restore restrooms at Huber, Poinsett and Harding parks, and establish a dedicated fund with mandatory yearly contributions from the General Fund to maintain and replace capital city facilities.

Reservations for this event are required, and may be made by telephoning the chamber office at 233-7040 on or before Feb. 23.

First mixer scheduled

The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce holds its first mixer of the year on Wednesday, Feb. 16, 5:30-7 p.m., at Summerville El Cerrito Royal located at 6510 Gladys Ave.

Reservations are not required, but would be helpful in planning the event. Call the office at 233-7040.

Chamber dinner no problem

Ties between city government and the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce are as strong as ever, despite the failure of Mayor Mark Friedman and Councilwoman Gina Brusatori to attend the business group's annual installation and awards dinner Jan. 28.

After receiving letters from Friedman explaining his absence, Chamber Manager Sewall Glinternick said the pair had a right not to attend since the event was held at Spenger's Restaurant in Berkeley, an establishment that is the target of a union boycott.

At the same time, Glinternick praised Mayor Pro-tem Larry Damon and Councilwoman Kathie Perka for attending the banquet.

"They were elected to represent all the people of El Cerrito, and the business community is among those people. These two were just doing their job," said Glinternick.

In his letter to the chamber manager, Friedman stated:

"I deeply regretted having to miss the chamber's annual installation dinner last Friday night at Spenger's Restaurant in Berkeley. I was really looking forward to discussing my views on the economic future of El Cerrito with Chamber members."

El Cerrito Chamber

By Sewall Glinternick

"So, I was disappointed to learn that the event was going to be at Spenger's which is on the AFL-CIO do-not-patronize list. I am also fully aware that no one at the chamber was aware of the labor problem at the time when the dinner was booked with a sizable deposit."

"In no way would I expect those who remember the previous Spenger's as always being a union staffed restaurant to realize that the new Spenger's is definitely not union and is indeed re-sistering efforts to have previous union employees rehired. That is why the Central Labor Council has placed Spenger's on the boycott list and is regularly picketing around the entrance. I have a lifelong commitment to not patronizing union boycotted establishments and not crossing picket lines."

"I know that you personally have always supported legitimate efforts by labor to organize and have always realized that being pro-business is not at all contradictory with being sympathetic to labor unions. I am the same way."

"I hope your membership will forgive my non-attendance and I hear the dinner was a very successful event. I have really enjoyed the opportunity to work closely with the chamber ever since taking office on the council and have especially appreciated all of the input from you and chamber members into the new economic development plan for the city. I am looking forward to a continued close relationship and hope that you will invite me to address the chamber at one of your functions soon."

Chamber co-sponsors Earth Day

Once again the El Cerrito Chamber will co-sponsor Earth Day on Saturday, April 15.

The year 2000 celebration will feature hundreds of residents and business people contributing their time and energy to improving parks, schools, creeks, and a variety of other projects designed to make this community a more attractive place to live, work and do business.

This year's Earth Day will focus on sprucing up the Ohlone Greenway, schools and neighborhood parks. Employees of local businesses are being invited to join community volunteers in working on one or more of the over 30 project sites.

As always, Earth Day activities will be funded primarily from donations of cash, food or other materials from local residents and businesses. Chamber members who wish to make a donation are asked to contact the Earth Day Committee at 215-4350.

Chamber aids art project

The El Cerrito Chamber office, 10848 San Pablo Ave., has been selected as one of six sites for collection of keys and dollar bills for a community-art column.

A team of artists are already hard at work creating a column that will be part of a Contra Costa Countywide Arts Millennium celebration at the Concord Pavilion in July before taking up



RETIRING CHAMBER president Bill Kerber, left, passes the gavel to his successor, Michael Klinger.

permanent residence in El Cerrito.

El Cerrito's column will be done in wood, metal, ceramic, and paint, and will use recycled materials including keys from homes or businesses.

Keys and \$1 bills may be mailed to Sustainable El Cerrito, CA 94530, or can be dropped off at the chamber office; City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave.; Community Center, 7007 Moeser; Senior Center, 6500 Stockton; the Glenn Custom Frame Shop, 7027 Stockton; and Marvin Gardens Real Estate, 7502 Airmont Ave.

Or, if you wish, you can bring your donations to the Community Center on Earth Day, April 15, where you can see local artists working on the column.

Still time for free listing

Audie Vance, one of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce's newer members reported this week that there was still time for people in this organization to get a free two-line listing on the Internet Web site maintained by Locality.com. Cost of such a listing is normally \$99 per year.

Chamber members will also receive a \$100 credit toward the production of any Locality.com showcase Web site. Production charges for designing such a Web site normally start at \$299.

Interested members may contact Vance by telephoning 526-3761 or by stopping by the chamber office at 10848 San Pablo Ave. for an application form.

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Thursday, February 17th - 10 a.m.

Doctors Medical Center Vale Conference Room
San Pablo Campus - 2000 Vale Road

Doctors Medical Center
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ECHS NEWS

day, March 29, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Red Cross Support Bank in girl's gym

■ Spring Concert. Thursday, March 30, 7:30 p.m. Band and Concert Choir.

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Tune in to KECG 88.1 FM, 9:55 - 10:05 am Monday-Friday, for ECHS daily announcements. Visit Web site, www.wccud.k12.ca.us/elceroito/

IN BRIEF

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Free screening for prostate cancer

Doctors Medical Center Pinole is offering free prostate cancer screenings on Feb. 29 for men who are 50 and older who have not had a digital rectal exam or PSA test in the last year, and are not under the care of a physician.

According to Dr. Brazell Carter, chief of staff at Doctors Medical Center Pinole, African-American men have the highest death rate for prostate cancer in the world. Prostate cancer is the most common male cancer and the second leading cancer killer of American men.

In recognition of this health problem and February being Black History Month, the medical center is offering the free screenings from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m. at 2151 Apian Way. Advance registration is required.

Call 800-206-9355 for more information and to schedule an appointment. The center also offers prostate cancer support groups.

News briefs are compiled by Dora Scardina. If you have an item of interest, contact her at 510-262-2732 or at dscardina@cctimes.com.

Time to put Civil War's legacy to rest



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

bolizes something much more sinister—racism. It's the flag of slavery, lynchings and Jim Crow.

The truth is that the Confederate battle flag never flew over the state capitol in South Carolina (or any other state, for that matter) during the Civil War, or for almost 100 years afterward. It was flown for the first time in 1962, at the instigation of the White Citizens' Council—it's the political arm of the Ku Klux Klan—as an act of defiance against racial integration.

And it doesn't help the pro-flag argument when the South Carolina legislator who heads the Save the Flag committee calls the NAACP "The National Association for the Advancement of Retarded People." (Later, when he was called upon to apologize, he said he apologized to all retarded people.)

Racists all over the world, from militiamen in Montana to diehard apartheid advocates in South Africa, seem to be under no illusions about what the Confederate flag really means.

They've gleefully appropriated it as a symbol of their own hate-filled doctrines.

But let's ignore all that and take the pro-flag folks at their word: that they're only trying to honor their Confederate heritage. Even then, their argument still comes up short.

As I said, I'm a recovering Copperhead, which means I eventually got over it.

Sure, I thrilled to the tales of romance and the glory. Sure, I cried when I read about the deaths of Lewis Armistead, Patrick Cleburne and "The Gallant Pelham." Sure, my heart leaped when I heard jaunty Southern marches like "The Bonnie Blue Flag." But if you listen carefully to the lyrics of "The Bonnie Blue Flag," you'll see what's really underneath the romantic rhetoric:

We are a band of brothers
And loyal to the soil.

Fighting for the property
We gained by honest toil.

You know what that "property" is, don't you? Human beings. Men, women and children totally at the mercy of someone who can legally do anything to them, up to and including rape and murder.

Nowadays, there's a revisionist view being bruited about that says the Civil War really wasn't about slavery. It's claimed the war was really about states' rights (which turns out to be the right to own slaves), or even about tariffs.

If you believe that, there's a bridge in Brooklyn I'd like to sell you. No matter how they try to spin it, racism was the raison d'être of the Confederacy from day one. During the war, it was official Confederate policy to take white Union prisoners alive, if possible, but to massacre captured black Union soldiers on the spot.

And when Richmond was finally captured, and Gen. Grant thoughtfully assigned a soldier to guard the house of Mrs. Robert E. Lee against looters, she was indignant. Why? Because the soldier was black.

No, the truth is the Civil War was a war against the twin evils of slavery and disunion. And 500,000 Union soldiers, a good number of them African-Americans, gave their lives in that cause. Are we now to dishonor their memory by flying the flag that symbolized those two evils?

Yes, Lee and his lieutenants were good men and gallant soldiers. But despite their sterling characters, the bottom line is that they committed treason. (The Constitution defines treason as "levying war against the United States.")

Or, as Grant put it, describing his feelings at Appomattox, "I felt like anything rather than rejoicing at the downfall of a foe who had

fought so long and valiantly, and had suffered so much for a cause, though that cause was, I believe, one of the worst for which a people ever fought."

Lee and his cohorts were never brought to trial due to the intervention of Grant, who threatened to resign if they were put in the dock.

But they were rebels and traitors just the same, and their treason does not deserve to be honored. Honor the Southern dead, if you wish, by flying the Confederate flag over their graves. But not over a state capitol. That was what the war was all about: namely, does South Carolina belong to the United States, or doesn't it?

And, paradoxically, removing the Confederate flag would be good for the South, too. Many Southerners who grew up during the Civil Rights movement, like Bill Clinton, will tell you that it was the best thing that ever happened to the South because it finally brought the region into the 20th century.

The great recent movement of population and wealth to the Sun Belt could never have happened if it were still mired in Jim Crow.

The key to the future lies not in nostalgia for a past that probably never was, but in burying the bad parts of that past and moving on to something better.

So to those who want to keep flying the Confederate flag, I say this: The Civil War is over. The South lost. And if you truly love the South, you'll say, "Thank God."

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-273-9039; write him c/o Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland, CA 94619; or e-mail him at catman@california.com.

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Principal

FROM PAGE A1

mother, Galindo worked as a waitress and at other jobs, wandering, not certain what to do with her life. "Then one day I decided I wanted to do something," she said. So Galindo went back to school.

The future principal attended Sonoma State University while working full time. After earning her bachelor's degree, Galindo wasn't sure what to do next.

But one day, Galindo went to visit a friend teaching at a high school. The atmosphere on campus, the sight of young people overwhelmed by an uncertain future yet energetic and full of life, struck her right between the eyes. When she looked at them, she thought of her days in high school and what could have happened if she had been motivated back then.

"I saw all these kids wandering around, and felt I had something to tell them," she said, recollecting the experience. "I was really excited and thought — 'I'll be a teacher!'"

After earning her credential, Galindo taught in Santa Rosa, then attended San Francisco State University, earning a credential in special education, a program she taught at Balboa High School in San Francisco. But after five years there, Galindo — like many other teachers — hit the wall of bureaucracy head-on.

"I thought there must be a way to operate a school more efficiently," she said. "San Francisco Unified has a lot of fine qualities, and I don't know if it's the size of the district, or the politics there, but I really wasn't happy with the way they conducted business."

Galindo contemplated leaving the teaching profession.

"I think teachers are given a bad rap, and are not treated with the re-

spect they deserve. Teaching is hard work, and a teacher's day isn't over at 3 p.m."

But as more and more teachers turned to her for leadership in their efforts to outwit the bureaucracy, Galindo became aware of her skills and decided to become an administrator.

As vice principal at Balboa, one of the poorest high schools in San Francisco, she was again confronted by the Kafka-like bureaucracy.

"Again, I realized that education isn't working, that people aren't paying attention and taking care of business. You could not get someone to answer the phone in that district. And students were graduating who couldn't read," she said.

It was then that Galindo learned Albany High School was seeking a vice principal. She leaped at the opportunity, and, just a year later, became principal.

"This school has so much going for it," she said with unbridled enthusiasm. "The district office is unbelievably helpful and supportive. Connie Hubbard has been a mentor to me in many ways. And in this unbelievable way, everything came together."

Yet everything wasn't beautiful at Albany High. Galindo inherited a school in the midst of construction, with no building, one where many students were bitterly pessimistic. During her first few months as principal, Galindo and her two assistant vice principals tried to turn things around. But it was tough.

The new principal and staff worked hard to transform homecoming — a traditional and popular event with students, yet one that enjoyed little support in the community — into a positive and enjoyable high school experience.

Despite all efforts by staff and students, hoodlums did their best to ruin

the event. All of a sudden, the effervescence students felt at the beginning of the year evaporated.

But Galindo is not the type of person to give up. Homecoming was just a bump on the road to the motivated administrator, who works with her two assistant principals every day, every hour, to turn things around. But it isn't that easy. Such things take time.

"A good leader is only as good as the people around them," Galindo said. "And we have two outstanding people working here as vice principals. The school is very important to all of us, and we all want things to work, no matter what it takes to get things done. Nobody of us ever asks, 'Is that my job?' We work together until things get done."

Despite the difficulties faced by all educators these days, Albany High's principal is undaunted.

"We're willing to get things done, no matter how difficult the task," she declared. "It will happen. And it will happen for all the students in this school — not just the college bound, but everybody."

One of Galindo's goals is to develop more programs for teens who aren't interested in going to college, without neglecting those who do.

"I didn't want to go to college when I was a teen," she said. "Did that mean I was a failure? That's certainly how I felt. But what about the kids that don't want to go to a university? What are we offering them?"

"We should have something for those kids as well, programs where they can learn trades so we are taking care of everybody. Sometimes I think that I should have been an electrician. The electrician is paid quite a bit more than a teacher, let me tell you."

And Galindo is a blue collar-style professional, one ready to jump into difficult situations, and get her hands



ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL Principal Gloria Galindo speaks from experience as she works to impart the value of education to students.

dirty until the job is done. Brutally honest and down to earth, Galindo says what she thinks and does what she believes is right. And she enjoys her job.

"It's a miracle when you get up in the morning and you love going to work," Galindo said. "And I love this job. I do. Working with young people,

helping to motivate them, and will use their time wisely and make something from their lives. What could be better?"

Community college lands building site

By Marc Albert

BERKELEY — Vista College announced it will buy a downtown parking lot for \$1.9 million and build new facilities on the site.

"The rented space we have now is not really appropriate as a learning environment," said Jeffrey Hayman, spokesman for the Peralta Community College District, which operates Laney College and Merritt, formerly Grove Street College. "We want to provide state-of-the-art facilities for our students and the community."

Students now attend classes at two

downtown locations and in classrooms provided by UC-Berkeley.

The purchase marks the settlement of an eminent domain action filed by the district to take ownership of the lot.

"With the formal acquisition of title to the property we are now able to rapidly move forward in the process to build a new facility for Vista Community College," said Peralta Community College District Chancellor Ronald Temple.

Hayman said the district is in the process of selecting an architect for the building, which is to serve as a new campus for the 4,250-student institu-

tion. The new building will be between six and seven stories and may include below ground parking.

The district has set aside \$15 million for construction, which could be augmented by funding provided by a November bond issue, should the measure be approved by voters. Vista College spokeswoman Shirley Fogarino said the district hopes to open the building in time for fall of 2002.

The Downtown Berkeley Association said it had no position on the future development, but pledged to work with the school to "find creative solutions to parking problems downtown."

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"After returning to California, I realized my heart was in the construction industry so I obtained my license and began contracting in 1985," says McVay. "I recently moved from Contra Costa to

Oakland and gradually moved my customer base with me. I have always been in the California residential remodeling business and my company has been named the 'Best in Custom Windows and Bathroom Remodeling.'"

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BUSINESS FOCUS

by Laura Fischer

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For information on the Business Focus, call Advertising at 339-4030.

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Analysts say
some perks
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West County wants
to increase salaries
By Suzanne Pardington

STACKING UP AGAINST THE STATE

Annual comparison: West Contra Costa Unified School District vs. state average

WCCUSD State average

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Annual lifetime retiree benefits (per teacher) \$2,488 n/a

SOURCE: SCHOOL SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA

Costa is you can't have it all," said Ron Bennett, president of School Services of California, the Sacramento-based consulting firm that studied district spending. "You can't have high service to kids and high benefits and have competitive salaries. Something has to become less of a priority."

The Budget Fiscal Health Analysis was commissioned last summer when

the district and teachers were at an impasse during contract negotiations. The talks ended with a deal to increase teacher salaries by 7.61 percent. With extra money from the state, first-year teacher salaries rose to \$32,000 from \$28,942.

According to the study, the 32,000-student district is one of only 12 in California to offer health benefits to retired employees and their spouses until they die. That alone costs the districts \$5 million a year, with the price tag expected to rise as more teachers live longer and health care costs mount.

School board members—some of whom campaigned on teacher-friendly platforms—said they are hesitant to make deep cuts to the \$200 million general fund budget.

"You can't just say, 'cut it,'" said Trustee Karen Leong-Fenton. "There's a human face to all this."

Trustee Patricia Player, a retired teacher who was supported by the teacher's union in her November campaign, said teachers were given lifetime benefits in 1974 because the district couldn't afford raises.

She said health benefits are important to her, and she would not ask other teachers to give them up.

"You feel like you'll be taken care of—that you'll always have good health care," she said.

Small class sizes, lifetime health benefits and teacher planning time are perks that the union fought hard to win and refuses to cede—even for higher salaries, said Marta Dragos, president of United Teachers of Richmond.

Yet higher salaries are needed to retain teachers in the state's competitive market, said Dragos, adding that she thought the consultants were looking down the wrong path.

"We have to look at ways to try for more (outside) money for urban schools," said Dragos. "To look at what we've got and divvy up the pie is not an answer."

But Trustee George Harris III, who also won teachers union support, said everything's on the table when the next contract talks begin this spring, including the lifetime benefits.

"Nobody's talking about cuts yet," he said. "I want to hear what teachers have to say. Would you rather have higher salaries or teacher planning time? It's clear from the analysis we don't have the money to do both."

Jamming a revolving door of teachers has become a key focus for the district, which sees hundreds leave each year. Of the 280 new teachers hired by the district in the 1998-99 school year, 62 percent were interns or teaching on waivers or emergency or out-of-state credentials.

The consultants did not make di-

rect recommendations on where to cut, but found areas where the district—with some of the state's lowest performing schools—far outspent most others.

One such area is special education, which may prove hardest to cut, since state and federal laws mandate what services the district must provide. It spends about \$14 million from its general fund budget on special education. About \$20 million comes from state and federal funds.

"We have a responsibility and obligation to serve children, but we don't have the funding to manage it without encroaching deeply on the general fund, which takes away from other services," said Susie VanDeVeer, regional superintendent for special

education.

Steve Collins, the district's special education director, attributed the high cost to the number of special education children in the district are in special education programs, compared to about 10 percent statewide.

But the state allocates special education money based on the total district population, not by the number of special education students.

Other factors may include the cheaper rents that draw more group homes to the district, which must then take on the expense of those residents, legal costs, and a high number of medically sensitive special education children who need nurses and aides.

We've moved

We've relocated our offices from Oakland to the West County Times building at 4301 Lakeside Drive (take the Richmond Parkway exit off Interstate 80) in Richmond. Our intermailing address is P.O. Box 1624, El Cerrito, 94530.

We also have new phone numbers:

Chris Treadway, editor, 243-3575

Peter Mentor, sports editor, 243-3577

James Carter, reporter, 243-3576

Marc Albert, reporter, 243-3578

J.R. Deaton, reporter, 243-3579

Our fax number remains the same, 644-1735.

If you have questions or comments, e-mail the editor at ctreadway@cctimes.com

Parking

FROM PAGE A1

car salesman," Gausman added. When questioned, Gausman said that a driveway beside her home, which she said it is too narrow to need.

"I had to be able to drive a Ford down it," she said. "But not more."

While considering Gausman's request, the Traffic and Safety Commission asked that disabled residents seek handicapped parking spots apply only to them rather than the City Council, which is the current arbitrator. The council later unanimously passed a motion asking staff to draft a policy that would conditionally approve Gausman's request.

During a thorough debate, city council members weighed the consequences of opening a new procedure that would result in more of the familiar parking places around town.

Councilman Allan Maris reluctantly voiced one of the main concerns, though it appeared to cause some discomfort.

"We've all seen abuses," he said, referring to individuals who park in

handicapped spots and rush unhampered in and out of stores. Maris suggested the city establish procedures that would help avoid misuse.

Maris and Mayor Jon Ely later said it was their duty to ask hard questions, though they and the council support additional handicapped parking spaces for those who need them.

Council members also discussed potential methods to establish need by disabled applicants, and to certify they are the actual owners of a vehicle—another effort to stymie abuse. They also debated what to charge individuals who qualified for handicapped parking spots in front of their homes.

Susie Kiser, a disabled resident, took issue with the discussion.

Kiser said other handicapped residents in a neighborhood would benefit from having blue parking spots as well. She said the entire issue should be viewed as a positive development, not a negative one.

"People in Albany are aging," Kiser said, addressing the council from the back of the gallery. "There are going to be more people using disabled placards in town. To have more disabled parking should be a welcome addition to the community," she said.

Kiser, a psychologist involved with disabled issues, also opposes requiring disabled drivers to prove ownership of a car, suggesting that many get rides from others but still need to park in handicapped zones.

The council ultimately directed staff members to forge a policy creating a process that would create more handicapped parking spots and establish procedures designed to avoid abuse. That measure passed on a 4-1 vote. Councilman Robert Good voted no.

El Cerrito discussed the issue a week ago and is also studying possible changes to its application blue curb process.

Kehls remembered

After adjournment, the council and gallery dedicated a moment of silence to Robert "Bob" Kehls Sr., who died in Sacramento on Feb. 1. Kehls served as a member of the Albany Board of Education for 22 years, and, according to Dario Meniketti, made many significant contributions to the city.

The next council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 22, due to President's Day.

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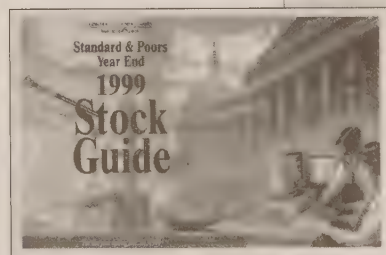


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Plan

FROM PAGE A1

meeting. Along with the pending Plaza reconstruction, adoption of the economic development plan did seem to be a watershed moment in El Cerrito's economic history.

"Some 23 first-year steps are laid out, they're all important some of them are already into play, others wait on the appointment of a permanent commission and on the hiring of a full-time development director," said Economic Development Task Force Chairman Raymond Miles. "El Cerrito, if it does not find its way toward a sustained program, it will find itself at a disadvantage."

The economic development strategy and action plan developed by the task force is a comprehensive outline to invigorate the city's economic health. Its vision is for a "diverse and vibrant economy" with a strategy that, according to the report, "should be proactive and should build on El Cerrito's unique strengths, focusing on the strongest near-term opportunities while keeping an eye on long-term trends and opportunities."

The report states that the economic development plan "should convey to developers a proactive and friendly environment towards development in El Cerrito." It has recommendations on how to attract and retain businesses by such methods as removal of regulatory barriers, maintaining business communication and creating an inventory and database of existing businesses.

The "action plan" portion of the report lists immediate, near-term and

long-term objectives. It calls on the city to address such issues as the traffic and parking problem and launching "a proactive outreach and marketing effort."

Council members praised the task force's work and plan, but had many questions and comments about economic development in the city. Traffic and parking issues and how they affect business were discussed. The cost of implementing the recommended economic development program was also a concern.

"We can't just sort of say, 'Well, yeah we'll do it.' We have to wholeheartedly commit to this is what we want to do and basically give it whatever resources it needs in order to succeed," said Councilwoman Janet Abelson. "I think we want to have a top-notch person as the manager and we want to have good support staff. I think that's a very hard thing to do in this economy."

The estimated first-year budget to implement the program is \$350,000.

This includes \$133,700 for the economic development director (with benefits), \$60,000 for staff support (with benefits), \$50,000 for marketing and promotion and \$50,000 for a Fairmount Avenue specific plan and other area plans.

The task force listed more than 25 possible funding sources, such as the California Economic Development Financing Authority, the Small Business Development Center, Community Development Block Grant program and Transportation Development Act.

"What I would like to do before we move forward with this is to determine what is the cost/benefit of funding a program such as this," said

Councilwoman Gina Brusatori. "If we are going to look at a \$350,000 program, then I would argue we should be looking at generating at least \$350,000 annually in additional revenues, or something else that's going to make us feel that this is money well spent."

Councilman Larry Damon called for a "comprehensive" traffic survey and analysis "not just counting cars" and praised the task force and its report. "They've given us a point of departure. This isn't the final solution. The work now starts," he said.

Damon said El Cerrito economic development must be coordinated with Richmond's economic development and he urged speedy formation of an El Cerrito Economic Development Commission that would "continue the momentum developed by this task force."

The City Council adopted the recommended plan and directed staff to immediately begin formation of an economic development commission. Staff and the new commission will essentially develop a job description and qualifications for the economic development manager.

The council decided to fund the plan via "incremental budgeting" until the economic development manager is on board and able to develop a detailed business plan with cost and resource estimates.

The city's current Economic Development Program is funded only through March 31, 2000. With adoption of the task force report and pending formation of an Economic Development Commission, council members confirm funding is likely to be extended well past that date.



Collision course

A PICKUP TRUCK parked in the Long's-Safeway lot in El Cerrito on Feb. 2 is pushed into a neighbor car, one of five vehicles hit by a car attempting to park. One car, according to witnesses, was pushed completely out of its parking space. Another had its rear bumper pulled off and was pushed into another car that rammed a Chevrolet Blazer. According to witnesses, the driver said the problem was a stuck accelerator.

Benches

FROM PAGE A1

project. A fence that intruded on the view was relocated down the hillside and the grade in the parking lot was

raised.

Inspiration for the project came during one of Rosenu's many visits to the turnout.

"When I was riding my bicycle I would frequently stop at Inspiration Point to stretch and enjoy view," he

said. "One day it just hit me the benches were wrong place."

The only place to sit on Inspiration's parking lot were trees under trees near Canyon Road.

The placing ignored the views of the hills to the east," he said.

"Your body's just drawn to the edge," he said. "It's not the somebody would design a site."

After doing some investigation, Rosenu found a suitable spot for the benches. He then approached the park with the club's offer of financial volunteer help.

The club typically donates fundraiser proceeds to organizations that support cycling and open space, so this project was out of the blue. The cost, \$1,000 for three benches and a brass plaque, was a big ask. Rosenu said, not only for the aesthetic improvement but for the "points" club members get when they use the benches.

And for hikers or riders who know the benefactors who have a place to sit, the club's name on the brass plaque.

Tax

FROM PAGE A1

"According to the district, there's \$89,000 in parcel tax money that hasn't been spent. Where's the rest of it?"

According to Assistant Superintendent Constance Hubbard, "The new parcel tax ended up supporting ongoing programs at a higher rate than we hoped. That's what we're looking at, to figure out how to address some of those issues identified in the parcel tax as we build our future budget."

But Hubbard has been tight-lipped when it comes to revealing how the AUDS spent money this year.

Budget documents released to the general public shed little light on why, after the Measure A windfall, the dis-

trict was unable to deliver on promises made by parcel tax advocates that the funds would provide more creative programs in public schools.

On Jan. 25, Hubbard said the district suffered from decreased enrollment this year, which results in less Average Daily Attendance funding from the state.

ADA funding is based on a formula that essentially provides local school districts with monies depending upon the number of students attending school daily.

ADA figures are forecast and then tracked over a school year. Albany will receive about \$11 million this year in ADA funding, Hubbard said recently. Districts are free to spend such funds as they choose.

Yet to date, the assistant superintendent, who is in charge of the budget, has not revealed how all district

monies have been spent.

The district has not responded to request from the Journal for specific budget information.

District officials have suggested that a retroactive pay increase to teachers soaked up a considerable amount of the parcel tax funding.

Union officials have a different view.

"We ratified a contract with the district before the parcel tax was passed," said David DeHart, president of the Albany Teachers Association. "We have no say in how (the district) pays our wages."

DeHart said teachers received a 3.41 percent increase in pay for the 1999-2000 school year. Retroactive cost-of-living increases amounting to 1.5 percent were paid to teachers for 1997 and 1998, he said, adding that teachers worked through those years

without receiving a raise.

"Our executive board set a goal for Albany teachers to be within the pay scale of the top third of comparable districts," DeHart said. "However, despite modest increases, we have fallen below that, especially in mid-range salaries."

The district beefed up salaries of administrators and some principals this year, DeHart said, including a "substantial" raise awarded former Superintendent of Schools Dale Hudson last year "in an effort to attract a new superintendent." DeHart said Hudson is also currently earning about \$8,000 a year acting as a consultant to the district on new school construction.

Teachers and the district are currently negotiating next year's contract.

In the meantime, a group of individuals that campaigned for the par-

cel tax recently met with district officials. Led by Sandy Bender, the group maintains Measure A was intended to create more programs in the arts and sports, though they admit the actual language of the parcel tax did not earmark funds for those specific purposes.

Members of the ad hoc committee have also been reluctant to discuss their findings and plans, though they are clearly upset that so few new programs were created after the tax became law.

However the committee — which has no formal name — is expected to issue some sort of statement soon announcing the results of their findings and, perhaps, recommendations for the next budget.

The AUDS is scheduled to begin work on their next budget in March.

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Real Estate & Home

The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclarion, The Piedmonter

February 11, 2000

Section B

Weekly Sales Find out what your neighbors just sold for [B12]

Open Homes Get a jump on the competition with our handy listings [B14]

At-home getaways make most of outdoors

Covered patios, verandas, balconies more popular than ever in home design

By Donna Gehrke White
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

ANNMARIE AND TONY Howe wanted a getaway — someplace to unwind after a day of working and taking care of Cheyenne, 9, and Courtney, 6.

They found it in their own home. It's a balcony, off the master bedroom of a five-bedroom house the Howes are building at the Mariposa community in Miramar, Fla.

Now the Howes finally have a place to just relax by themselves. "It's a private retreat," Annmarie said.

Many other people are adding outdoor "rooms." From balconies to covered patios, they are becoming more popular than ever.

Indeed, the latest must-have in a new home isn't inside but out: courtyards, roofed upstairs verandas and downstairs

terraces, and covered walkways, or loggias. Builders are including the outside "rooms" in the cost of the home, or giving buyers the option of paying extra — which many are.

And while most new homes have always included some outside paved space — even if it's a concrete patch — they're getting bigger. And there are more of them.

Take the Howes' new home.

It will have not only the balcony but a covered terrace downstairs. "It will be nice, because we intend to build a pool by the terrace," Annmarie said.

Many new condominiums also offer sprawling outside rooms, from 5,000-square-foot terraces for ground-floor units to penthouse verandas that span more than 200 feet. Many luxury condominiums have at least two balconies or terraces.



See GETAWAYS, Page B11

CROCKETT HERD and Laurie Gaudio have a balcony that stretches across their new Florida penthouse.

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Know what you're getting to avoid surprise

When Diane called about selling her house and buying another one, she explained that she was doing a lot of dancing and wanted a big dance space, and also would like a more private outdoor area.

"And this time, I want a house that doesn't need any repairs. Can I get that? How much will it cost?" she said.

We started by looking at her house. It needed many things. The hardwood floors were gouged and paint-spattered; the entry floor had been patched with plywood. Her kitchen and bathroom needed drastic attention. Stucco walls and windows were peeling and stained. A weedy yard thrived.

To Diane's credit, she'd had the house rewired and re-roofed. She also had started some foundation work but never finished it.

"It drove me crazy dealing with the city and the contractor. I never want to go through that again," she said.

Our inspection continued: If she were going to sell, she would need a termite report and lots of word done. One way or another, these repairs would figure into the price.

Quietly, gently, as we did not want to offend her, we talked about making the house look better. We said that she could sell the house just as it was, but that some improvements would certainly increase the price she would get. We listed repairs we thought made sense and began to look at houses Diane might like.

It didn't go well. Diane didn't like the houses we found for her. She couldn't believe how expensive and

True Experiences



By Tarpo and Talbert

"all wrong" they were. She said things like, "This house isn't any bigger than mine, and although the kitchen is new, and I guess the neighborhood is more expensive, the price is incredible. I'd never pay that much for this house."

Diane didn't like the bids she was getting for repairing her house either. About some of the repairs she said, "I could do that myself. Why should I pay \$500 for that?" About other work, her reaction was, "I've lived with it this way and it's been fine."

We knew that it would be painful for Diane to change her house. She resented the idea that her money and time would be spent for the buyer's benefit. Even if she got a higher price when she sold, she said it might not be worth the effort.

Worse, the only reason for going through the travail of fixing and marketing would be a house that suited her better. By this time we could all see that finding what she wanted for a price she was willing to pay was not going to be easy — and maybe impossible.

One more difficulty came up dur-

ing our conversations. Diane did not want strangers going through her house. We pointed out that exposing the house to the widest possible audience was the way to get the highest price.

"Never mind," she said. "I'll just stay here."

We didn't hear from Diane again for three three years. She was happy, positive and in love. She and her new love were thinking of moving to Seattle.

"I want to sell my house and I don't want to fix it. Can I do that? How much will I get?"

The house looked the same, maybe a little worse, but we knew it was saleable. We gave Diane our estimate of what it would sell for as is; we added that the price might be higher, given the kind of demand we were seeing.

"But I don't want to show it, have it held open, or let anyone in," she replied. "What I want is to sell without doing anything at all. Don't you know someone who could just buy it?"

We didn't, but as she felt quite strongly about retaining her privacy, we suggested that she tell all her friends that she was selling. Maybe one of them would like to buy the house.

She thought that was a great idea. "In fact," she said, "I know a couple who have been looking for a long time. They told me that if I ever sold my house, they'd be interested."

She called the friends, who turned out to be interested. They had looked at many houses, discovered how few they could afford, were well ac-

quainted with what compromises they would have to make if they were going to buy. They had an agent, and they would like him to represent them.

This was good news. We all wanted the buyers to have their own representation, particularly as we would have no chance to prove the true value of the house. Whatever price Diane and her friends agreed upon would have to be a guess, one that they found satisfactory.

The friends were thrilled; they faced no competition. Before settling on a price, Diane got a termite report and the buyers had a professional inspection done. Quite a lot of work, both structural and cosmetic, was going to be necessary but the buyers weren't deterred.

Diane understood that the buyers were taking on. She also knew that it was possible that, even in the house's condition, someone else would pay more for the house than the friends. She didn't care.

In a matter of days, the contract was written and the disclosures completed. The appraisal was made and the buyers' loan approved.

It all worked smoothly and happily. Why? Because by the time these people were in contract, each of them knew they were getting what they wanted. Not a small thing.

Anet Tarpo and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patanet@lmi.net or by phone at 510-653-2050.

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Anian Pettit Tunney, C.R.S.

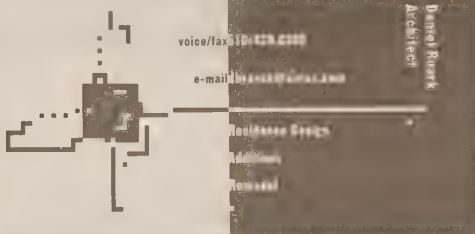
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Home improvement

Building Education Center, a nonprofit education organization at 812 Page St. (near 10th Ave.), offers the following courses (all are hands-on workshops): 510-232-5710.

Interior Design, four sessions held through Feb. 29, 7-10 p.m.; \$10.

Home Repainting, Tools and Techniques, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; \$75.

Home Repainting, Tools and Techniques, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; \$75.

Home Repainting, 9:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Feb. 13; \$10.

Power Tools for Beginners, "Components will build toolboxes to take home," 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Feb. 13; \$10.

Home Seller (how to sell your own home), 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 13; \$35.

How to Get Your Permit Approved, 7-10 p.m. Feb. 16; \$35.

Home Inspection, ventilation and air conditioning, 7-10 p.m. Feb. 17; \$35.

Home Inspection, Tools of the Trade, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 19; \$75.

Home Inspection, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 19; \$75.

Home Inspection, Watering Systems, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 20; \$50.

Home Inspection, Design Fundamentals, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 26; \$75.

Home Inspection, Basics for Women (participants will build bookshelves to take home), 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Feb. 26-27; \$75.

Home Inspection, Electricity for Your Home, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 27; \$75.

Home Inspection, Free Saturday and Sunday classes at Home Depot in February are on installing large flooring, ceramic tile, kitchen cabinets, tuning up lawnmowers and painting windows. Call any store for dates and schedules.

Home Inspection, Commercial real estate investing workshop. Learn the general principles, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 22. Sponsored by Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District at the Community Center, 320 Alameda Drive, Pleasant Hill. \$15-\$18. Bring calculator. Register at 925-676-0202.

Home Inspection, Estate Connect 2000: Feb. 23-25, at Francisco Hilton. By Inman News Service. Register: 800-775-4662 or see www.inman.com/summit.

Home Inspection, Council of Realtors referrals workshop. Learn how to increase business, get costs down and generate referrals. 9:15 a.m.-noon Feb. 24, Marriott Hotel at Bishop Ranch, San Ramon. By Providence Seminars. Free. Register at 800-945-3485, Ext. 209.

Home Inspection, California Association of Community Planners' law seminar: 8:30 a.m.-

4:30 p.m. Feb. 25, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco. Learn about new state legislation and its impact on homeowners, HOAs, professional managers and the industry. \$99-\$150. Register at 949-263-2226.

California Association of Residential Lenders: Group meets the second Thursday of the month, Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. 925-746-1847. Mortgage Brokers Breakfast Club meets at 8 a.m. Wednesdays, Allegro restaurant, Clocktower Center, Danville.

Ongoing

UC Botanical Garden. Enjoy a free tour of the UC Botanical Garden at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Special-interest classes on a variety of subjects available. The garden is located on Centennial Drive behind the UC-Berkeley campus. Call 510-642-3343.

Credit counseling. Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit community service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration is mandatory. Call (800) 501-SAVE.

Discover Oakland's changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on one of the free guided walking tours sponsored by the city's Community and Economic Development Agency. Call 510-238-3234.

Sick plant clinic. Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month for a free Sick Plant Clinic at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem. Call 510-643-2755.

Zero-down loans: Pizza seminar for East County families, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at First American Title, 3397 Deer Valley Road, Antioch. Presented by Community Funding. 925-778-4500.

First-time home buyers seminar: Learn how to buy a house in East County for minimal or no money down; classes held regularly at American Title, 1210 Central Blvd., Brentwood. Call 925-516-5795 for schedule.

California Association of Residential Lenders: Group meets the second Thursday of the month, Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. 925-746-1847. Mortgage Brokers Breakfast House at San Francisco Design Center: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays through Jan. 28. Interior design exhibit of three homes. Free. See showrooms. 2 Henry Adams St., S.F. 415-490-5800.

Credit-report preparation: Learn how to get your credit ready to apply for a home loan (free credit report). Free weekly classes at Diablo Funding Group, 587 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. 925-945-6112. Ext. 380.

We accept event announcements on a space-available basis. Fax listings for this section to 510-748-1680, write 1516 Oak St., Alameda 94501 or e-mail jsnyder1@cc-times.com.

Don't discount psychology when parting with home

How do I prepare to sell my home?

First, get prepared psychologically. Detach yourself emotionally from your home and start viewing it as a commodity you want to sell. This is hard for most sellers whose identities are often reflected in their homes. However, it's important to be candid with yourself about how your home should look when it goes on the market.

Property appearance and condition play a bigger role in the home sale process today than they did a decade ago. Today's home buyers usually are savvy, choosy and short of time. They'll pay a premium for homes they can move right into.

The probable selling price for your home will depend on various factors, including: how many buyers there are in the market looking for homes like yours; how many other homes like yours are currently on the market; and the condition of your home relative to your competition. You can't control the supply and demand factors affecting the market, but you can control how your home looks when it hits the market.

There are many reasons why most sellers — about four out of five — use real estate agents to help them sell their homes. One of the most useful

Real Estate Forum



By Dian Hymer

"Property appearance and condition play a bigger role in the home sale process these days..."

functions an agent provides is to consult with you on what fix-up projects will need to be completed before your home goes on the market.

Don't underestimate the time it takes to get a home ready. Ideally, you should talk to an agent months before your anticipated sale. Walk through your home with your agent and compile a "to-do" list. If the list is lengthy and your fix-up budget is limited, ask your agent to help you prioritize the list so that you concentrate your resources on the most important items.

First impressions are lasting. Pay particular attention to how your home looks from the street. If the exterior paint is peeling, repaint. If the front lawn is shot, roll in new sod. Leaning fence posts should be

straightened and burnt-out porch lights should be replaced.

Paint is the least expensive improvement you can make. Stick to neutral color schemes that will coordinate well with a variety of furnishings. It may not make sense to completely redo a dated kitchen, but consider updating it with a new floor, paint, light-fixtures and window coverings.

One of the most cost-effective things you can do to get ready to sell is to remove clutter in and around your home. We may feel comfortable in our homes when we're surrounded with our own belongings. But too many personal effects can distract a buyer from seeing what the home has to offer. Put away the essentials of daily existence like tooth brushes, hair dryers and refrigerator art. With less clutter, most homes appear larger. This can help to justify the price you asking.

Consider hiring a decorator who specializes in fixing up homes for sale to help you show your home off

to advantage. Sometimes a different furniture arrangement or new accessories will give a home a fresh, new look.

Your home should be spotless when it hits the market. Hire professional cleaners to give your home a thorough cleaning inside and out, including the windows. Word may get out that your home is going on the market. If so, you may receive requests from prospective buyers to preview your home early. If your home is in a state of disarray, buyers are likely to walk away with the wrong impression. Don't let your home be shown to prospective buyers until you've finished all your fix-up projects.

Dian Hymer is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Starting Out, The Complete Home Buyer's Guide." Available in book stores or from Chronicle Books: (800) 722-6657.

REALTY TRENDS

By Warren Lutz

Apartments set up neighborhood intranets

There's a new place on the Internet for homebuyers to look for property listings and moving services, even if they live across the country.

Cendant Corp. premiered its new real estate Web site Move.com along with a new deal with Palo Alto-based Alta Vista to debut an online real estate channel within a few months. Cendant will pay Alta Vista about \$40 million to make Move.com the portal's exclusive real estate services provider.

Delayed, renamed and long-awaited, Move.com features the Cendant family of Web sites and companies, including home listings from Century-21, Coldwell Banker and ERA international real estate brokerages; relocation services through Cendant Mobility; mortgage services through Cendant Mortgage; commercial realty services through Coldwell Banker Commercial; and rental listings and services via RentNet, MetroRent, National Home Connections and Welcome Wagon/GETKO.

Electricstreets.com unveiled

Do you have a beef with your landlord about your apartment? Want to meet your neighbors?

Now one Kentucky firm has created a forum for tenants to contact their landlords and next-door neighbors. Louisville, Ky.-based electric-

streets.com allows high-tech apartment complexes to set up intranets as a convenient way of allowing tenants to interact with each other and their landlords.

By logging on to their ElectricStreets account, apartment residents can pay rent, send and track maintenance requests and check property announcements.

They can also find out neighborhood information and communicate with other residents in their complex — sort of the next generation's way of going next door to borrow a cup of sugar.

Open Sunday 2-4:30

2815 Morgan Avenue, Upper Laurel
Mediterranean bungalow with large living room & dining room with built-ins, fireplace and hardwood floors. Updated kitchen/breakfast room. 2BA/1BA. Offered at \$283,000
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Featured Home of the Week

5511 LaSalle Ave. - Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$599,000
Dramatic contemporary home w/LaSalle Canyon vistas. 3BR/2BA. Fabulous updated kitchen. Flexible dining/family room space opens to secluded patio. Mindy Scott

Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.

7455 Woodrow Drive \$679,000
This exquisite home is located on a wooded lot w/serene views. Specially textured walls & hand-wrought Italian tiles add European character to the interior spaces. Judy Cain

877 Creed Road New Listing \$499,000
A charming Crocker Highlands traditional w/large formal rooms, updated eat-in kitchen, spacious family room, 3BR/2BA & parklike garden. Great location! James Garcia
35 Binnacle Hill \$489,000
Lovely Hiller Highlands townhouse w/smashing Bay view. 2BR/2BA plus loft. Private terrace off kitchen. Great location. Spacious garage w/ample storage. Elizabeth Dickson

68 Templar Place New Listing \$469,000
Move right in to this wonderful 3 BR restored traditional w/hardwood floors, updated kitchen & fabulous mahogany deck leading to gardens. Anian Pettit Tunney

Elegant New Home in Orinda \$2,450,000
Elegant architecture & exceptional detailing accent this stately new Mediterranean home in Sleepy Hollow. 6BR/4.5 BA, fabulous kitchen, landscaped garden with pool. Katie Harmon

Spectacular Home in the Hills \$925,000
Sophisticated new Mediterranean design w/spacious formal rooms, hardwood floors & gourmet kitchen w/granite counters. 5BR/3BA w/master bedroom retreat. John Karnay
New Craftsman \$950,000
Fabulous new 5BR/3BA craftsman style home set on a spacious lot with canyon views. Level yard & terraced garden. Katie Harmon

4900 Harbord Drive New Listing \$419,000
Contemporary w/lovely outlooks & level living. Hardwood floors open beamed ceilings. 2BR/2BA, den/study & spacious hobby room off 2-car garage. Linda McClain

42 Sereno Circle New Listing \$360,000
A rare opportunity! A spacious 3BR/3BA end unit in a special complex with pool. Wonderful indoor/outdoor living. Great open vistas. Katherine Cooper

2815 Morgan Avenue New Listing \$283,000
Charming Mediterranean bungalow. Living room & dining room w/built-ins. Hardwood floors, fireplace & updated kitchen w/breakfast room. 2BR/1BA. Connie Rogers

By Appointment

Rockridge Opportunity \$189,000
Cute 2BR/1BA fixer w/lots of potential. Living room with fireplace, hardwood floors, formal dining room, kitchen with breakfast room. Convenient location. Bertina Balestrieri
Upper Rockridge \$949,000
Light fills every room of this magnificent August Co. built & designed home. 4BR/3.5 BA + office retreat. Beautifully landscaped level garden and views. Debbi DiMaggio
Income Property \$695,000
Potential Tax Saver! This multiunit building features nine 3 BR/1 BA units. Great location. Helen Buty

House for Lease in Piedmont \$8000 mo.
Available 3/15. 5BR recently restored home set on approx 3/4 acre. Fabulous kitchen & library. Anian Tunney



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Understand how to hold home title

By Rick Brush
CALIFORNIA LAND TITLE ASSN

How should I take ownership of the property I am buying? This important question is one that California real property purchasers ask their real estate, escrow and title professionals every day.

Unfortunately, though these professionals may identify the many methods of owning property, they may not recommend a specific form of ownership, as doing so would constitute practicing law.

Because real property has become increasingly more valuable, the question of how parties take ownership of their property has gained greater importance. The form of ownership taken — the vesting of title — will determine who may sign various documents involving the property and future rights of the parties to the transaction. These rights involve such matters as real property taxes, income taxes, inheritance and gift taxes, transferability of title and exposure to creditor's claims. Also, how title is vested can have significant probate implications in the event of death.

The California Land Title Association (CLTA) advises those purchasing real property to give careful consideration to the manner in which title will be held. Buyers may wish to consult legal counsel to determine the most advantageous form of ownership for their particular situation, especially in cases of multiple owners of a single property.

The CLTA has provided the following definitions of common vestings as an informational overview. Consumers should not rely on these as legal definitions. The association urges real property purchasers to carefully consider their titling decision prior to closing and to seek counsel should they be unfamiliar

with the most suitable ownership choice for their situation.

Sole ownership

Sole ownership may be described as ownership by an individual or other entity capable of acquiring title. Examples of common vestings in cases of sole ownership are:

■ A single man or woman who has not been legally married. Example: Bruce Buyer, a single man.

■ An unmarried man or woman who was previously married and is now legally divorced. Example: Sally Seller, an unmarried woman.

■ A married man or woman who wishes to acquire title in his or her name alone.

The title company insuring title will require the spouse of the married man or woman acquiring title to specifically disclaim or relinquish his or her right, title and interest to the property. This establishes that it is the desire of both spouses that title to the property be granted to one spouse as that spouse's sole and separate property.

Example: Bruce Buyer, a married man, as his sole and separate property.

Co-ownership

Title to property owned by two or more persons may be vested in the following forms:

■ **Community property:** a form of vesting title to property owned by husband and wife during their marriage which they intend to own together. Community property is distinguished from separate property, which is property acquired before marriage, by separate gift or bequest, after legal separation, or which is agreed to be owned only by one spouse.

In California, real property con-

veyed to a married man or woman is presumed to be community property, unless otherwise stated. Since all such property is owned equally, husband and wife must sign all agreements and documents of transfer. Under community property, either spouse has the right to dispose of one half of the community property, including transfers by will.

Example: Bruce Buyer and Barbara Buyer, husband and wife as community property.

■ **Joint tenancy:** a form of vesting title to property owned by two or more persons, who may or may not be married, in equal interest, subject to the right of survivorship in the surviving joint tenant(s). Title must have been acquired at the same time, by the same conveyance, and the document must declare the intention to create a joint tenancy estate. When a joint tenant dies, property title is automatically conveyed by operation of law to the surviving joint tenant(s). Example: Bruce Buyer and Barbara Buyer, husband and wife as joint tenants.

■ **Tenancy in common:** a form of vesting title to property owned by any two or more individuals in undivided fractional interests. Each tenant in common owns a share of the property, is entitled to a comparable portion of the income from the property and must bear an equivalent share of expenses. Each co-tenant may sell, lease or will to his/her heir that share of the property belonging to him/her.

For example: Bruce Buyer, a single man, as to an undivided 3/4 interest and Penny Purchaser, a single woman, as to an undivided 1/4 interest, as tenants in common.

Other ways of vesting title include as:

■ A corporation is a legal entity, created under state law, consisting of one or more shareholders but regarded under law as having an existence and personality separate from such shareholders.

■ A partnership is an association of two or more persons who can carry on business for profit as co-owners, as governed by the Uniform Partnership Act. A partnership may hold title to real property in the name of the partnership.

■ A trust is an arrangement whereby legal title to property is transferred by the grantor to a person called a trustee, to be held and managed by that person for the benefit of the beneficiaries specified in the trust agreement.

■ This form of ownership is a legal entity and is similar to both the corporation and the partnership. The operating agreement will determine how the L.L.C. functions and is taxed. Like the corporation its existence is separate from its owners.

In cases of corporate, partnership, L.L.C. or trust ownership-required documents may include corporate articles and bylaws, partnership agreements, L.L.C. operating agreement and trust agreements and/or certificates.

Remember: How title is vested has important legal consequences. Consult an attorney to determine the most advantageous form of ownership for your situation.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN RESOURCES

A guide to some resources — stores, associations, designers, architects, contractors, books, Web sites — that may prove useful. Some of the names were borrowed from "Architectural Resource Guide" by David Kibbey for Architects, Designers, Planners for Social Responsibility.

Information

■ **Air quality.** The California Department of Health Services Indoor Air Quality Section maintains an excellent Web site with enough information about molds in the home, asbestos, the dangers of ozone generators, and more. www.cal-iaq.org/

■ **Asbestos.** Check the federal Environmental Protection Agency Web page, www.epa.gov/asbestos. Or call 415-744-1500.

■ **"Architectural Resource Guide,"** published by Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility, Northern California chapter. 510-273-2428. P.O. Box 9126, Berkeley, 94709. A comprehensive listing of environmental resources, products, and services from around the country. The group is a nonprofit that offers information to designers, professionals and the public on environmental building issues, features on building ecology monthly in San Francisco.

■ **"Consumer Guide to Home Energy Savings,"** published by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, contains listings of energy efficient products. 202-429-0063. Web at <http://aceee.org>

■ **The Ecology Center.** 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-822-2220. A bookstore and resource center carrying information and materials on various environmental topics.

■ **Energy.** PG&E is an excellent source of information to make your home energy efficient. PG&E Comfort Homes: 800-474-3468. PG&E Smarter Energy Line: 800-933-9555. www.pge.com/saving/

■ **EPA.** The federal Environmental Protection Agency has an amazing variety of accurate and clearly presented information on-line. Web at www.epa.gov/iaq/indstest.html

■ **"The Inside Story: A Guide to Indoor Air Quality,"** published by the federal Environmental Protection Agency in English and Spanish, is a clear and thorough guide, with references to many other agencies, publications and Web sites. Call 800-438-4318, or check www.epa.gov/iaq/

See RESOURCES, Page B5

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UPPER ROCKRIDGE...\$1,998,000
6042 MANCHESTER DR. Spectacular panoramic Bay views. Approx. 4200 sq. ft., 4BD/3BA, beautiful lawn and gardens. Anne Feste



BERKELEY HILLS.....\$1,395,000
1029 AMITO. Sophisticated new Arts & Crafts contemporary. 5BD/4.5BA, fabulous kitchen, lavish master suite. Dee & Joe Knowland



MONTCLAIR.....\$769,000
6799 CHELTON DR. Dramatic architect-designed contemporary with 4BD/3BA, soaring ceilings, gourmet kitchen, canyon views. Kathy Flynn



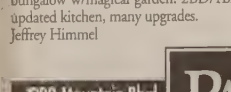
MONTCLAIR.....\$549,000
5970 COLTON BLVD. Spacious, updated contemporary. 5BD/4.5BA including 1BD/1BA au pair, gorgeous kitchen. FR. Teri Carlisle



HILLER HIGHLANDS...\$525,000
409 HILLER DR. New listing! Wonderful 2-bedroom with family room, large rumpus, gourmet kitchen and more. Bonnie Hirsch



OAK KNOLL.....\$299,000
9323 GRANADA AVE. New listing! Charming, updated home in great neighborhood. 3BD/1.5BA, large yard, attached 2-car garage. Tom Anthony



LAUREL.....\$259,000
3027 CALIFORNIA ST. Classic bungalow w/magical garden. 2BD/1BA, updated kitchen, many upgrades. Jeffrey Himmel

By Appointment



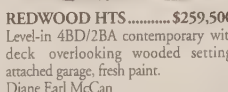
PIEDMONT.....\$2,195,000
Gracious central Piedmont traditional. 7 BD/5+BA including au pair, family rm., lg. level yard. Georgia Cornell



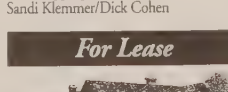
PIEDMONT.....\$929,000
Attractive 4BD/3BA with versatile floor plan, formal DR opens to sunny deck, family room w/fireplace. Leslie Gordon



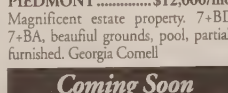
REDWOOD HTS.....\$379,500
Lovely 5BD/3BA home with spectacular Bay & city views, family room, 2 fireplaces, level yard. Diane E. McCan



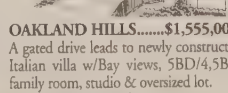
REDWOOD HTS.....\$259,500
Level-in 4BD/2BA contemporary with deck overlooking wooded setting, attached garage, fresh paint. Diane Earl McCan



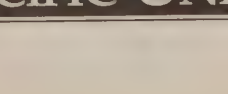
GRAND LAKE.....\$119,000
New listing! Sunny, immaculate top floor unit. 1BD/1BA, cathedral ceilings, deck, near shopping & transportation. Sandi Klemmer/Dick Cohen



PIEDMONT.....\$12,000/mo.
Magnificent estate property. 7+BD/7+BA, beautiful gardens, pool, partially furnished. Georgia Cornell



OAKLAND HILLS.....\$1,555,000
A gated drive leads to newly constructed Italian villa w/Bay views, 5BD/4.5BA, family room, studio & oversized lot. Dee & Joe Knowland



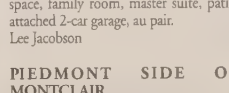
Coming Soon



UPPER ROCKRIDGE.....\$875,000
Gorgeous Monterey Colonial in popular neighborhood. 5BD/4BA, family room & rumpus, approx. 3,466 sq. ft., mature landscaping. Michelle Miller



PIEDMONT.....\$825,000
Spacious 3+BD/3+BA w/with open living space, family room, master suite, patio, attached 2-car garage, au pair. Lee Jacobson



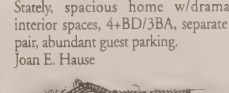
PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR
Fabulous 1950's contemporary w/ walls of glass and lush private gardens. 4BD/3BA, family room, near Village. Jeffrey Himmel



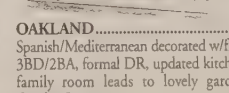
PIEDMONT.....\$549,000
Wonderful 3BD/2BA home above Highland Ave. Fabulous new kitchen, level back garden, master suite, new roof & landscaping. Debi Fitzgerald



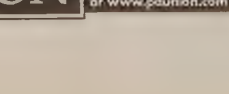
MONTCLAIR.....
Stately, spacious home w/dramatic interior spaces, 4+BD/3BA, separate au pair, abundant guest parking. Joan E. Hause



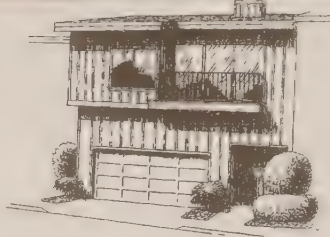
OAKLAND.....
Spanish/Mediterranean decorated w/laurel 3BD/2BA, formal DR, updated kitchen, family room leads to lovely garden. Carolyn Jones



OAKLAND.....
Spanish/Mediterranean decorated w/laurel 3BD/2BA, formal DR, updated kitchen, family room leads to lovely garden. Carolyn Jones



NEW HILLER HIGHLANDS LISTING Open Sunday, Feb. 13 - 2 to 4:30 p.m.



15 Binnacle Hill

Newly built in 1993, this lovely townhouse has a gorgeous bay view, ample storage and reflects the finest in contemporary living. Great location for commuting.

Offered at \$399,000



Martha Shin
339-8400
287-9806

Montclair Better Homes Realty



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BERKELEY



The Dexter Richards House

Enhanced by a magnificent pool in a Grecian colonnade, a tennis court, and grounds, this W.A. Yelland designed house is indeed a rare find, a romantic French Country house with soaring ceilings, gleaming tiles, & unusual detailing. Paul Templeton, ext. 131\$3,500,000



27 Tanglewood

Big dramatic new listing in the Claremont! Level grounds for entertaining: 4+ bedrooms, 4+ baths. Cosmetic kitchen. Tennis practice court! Ticia Swift, ext. 140.....\$1,100,000



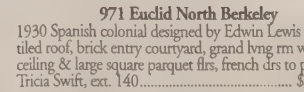
BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL!

Very special Elmwood craftsman! One level! 2+BD, 1.5BA, updated kitchen & bath. Bebe McRae, ext. 145.....\$425,000



2936 Linden Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30. New Listing!

Turn of the century charm close to College Avenue. 4+bedrooms, 2.5 baths. beautiful architectural details. Leslie Avant, ext. 122.....\$549,000



971 Euclid North Berkeley

1930 Spanish colonial designed by Edwin Lewis Snyder. tiled roof, brick entry courtyard, grand living rm w/ vaulted ceiling & large square parquet flrs, french drs to patio. Ticia Swift, ext. 140.....\$645,000



2360 Eunice - New Price!

Berkeley Rose Garden Neighborhood! Walk to UC, shops, & coffee from this comfortable 4+BD/3BA home level-in; bay views. Ticia Swift, ext. 140.....\$549,000

ALBANY

New Listing, Gateway Condominium

Catch the sunsets. 1+den/2 baths. Resort-like living. Ruth Frassetto, ext. 147.....\$159,000

We have the latest edition of Christie's Great Estates Magazine. Do reserve a copy today if you would like to receive one. Call Leah at 510-652-2133 ext. 129

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or www.pacificunion.com

Resources

FROM PAGE B4

www.epa.gov/ig/indist.html.
The EPA also runs the Indoor Air Quality Information Clearinghouse, which makes available many brochures and advisories about carbon monoxide, carpets, "Asthma, Air Quality and Environmental Justice," and more. Call 800-438-4318.
■ **The Healthy House Institute.** 40 North Sewell Road, Bloomington, Indiana, 47408. 812-332-5073. Web site: www.hhinst.com. Carries books by John and Lynn Marie Bower about creating a healthy home.
■ **Household hazardous materials.** For information call your county department of health. Contra Costa: 925-646-2286. Solano: 707-421-6765. Alameda: 510-567-0855.
■ **Lead.** call the National Lead Information Center and Clearing-

house at 800-424-LEAD or 800-LEAD-FYI.
(www.epa.gov/lead/nlic.htm), or the Contra Costa Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, 510-374-3481. Alameda County, call 510-567-8280; Solano County, 707-421-6765.

■ **Lung Association.** The American Lung Association provides a wealth of information on its Web site, www.lungusa.org/, ranging from general tips to detailed information about air cleaning devices. 1-800-LUNG-USA.

■ **"The New Natural House Book,"** \$22, and "The Natural House Catalog," \$23, both by David Pearson and published by Simon & Schuster, are useful, beautifully illustrated guides to every aspect of natural design. Although they include some questionable information (for example, suggesting that electro-magnetic fields cause disease, although scientists are far from convinced), the books provide thorough information about the construction of plywood, how a rammed earth home is built, what

linoleum is made from, etc.

■ **Quack watch.** The National Council Against Health Fraud (aka The National Council for Reliable Health Information) has its own Web site, www.ncahf.org/, and recommends a Web site run by Dr. Stephen Barrett, www.quack-watch.com. The sites include articles by doctors and scientists on such topics as multiple chemical sensitivity and power lines and cancer.

Environmental design, construction

■ **Arkin Tilt Architects.** 1062 Stannage Ave. Albany, 510-528-9830

■ **Dan Smith & Associates.** 1107 Virginia St., Berkeley. 510-526-1935.

■ **SYMBIOS Eco Design and Construction.** Kevin Falkerson. 2211 Joy Road, Bodega. 707-874-9015.

■ **Wanaselja Architecture** 2792 Shasta Road, Berkeley. 510-848-8901

Great salvage, used lumber

■ **A Bygone Era.** 653 Fifth St., Oakland. 510-444-5209. Cabinetry, clawfoot tubs, doors, windows.

■ **Berkeley Architectural Salvage.** 1167 65th St., Oakland. 510-655-2270. Large collection of unused hardware dating to the turn-of-the-century, sizable selection of spindles, towering 24-foot pillars. Carries originals.

■ **Beyond Waste.** 607 W. Sierra, Cotati. 707-792-2555. Manufactures and sells flooring made from old-growth Douglas fir rafters; custom makes flooring or paneling; carries entire sets of home windows in casements, including Victorian double-hung windows. Web site: www.sonic.net/~precycle

■ **C & K Salvage.** Oakland. 718 Douglas Ave., Oakland. 510-569-2070. Primarily lumber, large and large timber, some siding, flooring, bricks, doors and plumbing. Remills lumber. Remilling of clear heart redwood beams; maple flooring from a skating rink, long sections of

See RESOURCES, Page B6

Victorian Charm!

OPEN SUNDAY 1-5

FEBRUARY 13TH

1634 Grant Street

Turn of the century, located in a great section of Berkeley only minutes from the gourmet ghetto. Be enchanted the minute you drive up... Enter into a tranquil side garden and a VERY SPECIAL Japanese Tea House w/ full bath, sleeping/futon & serving areas.

Asking \$425,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

COLDWELL BANKER

5511 Zara Ave. • El Cerrito



\$298,000

This spacious light-filled home is full of charm and detail. The formal dining room, random plank floors and a new marble bath are a few of the features. 8470 sq. ft. lot offers potential for expansion.

Open Sunday 2-4

Carol Heath-Kim
(510) 525-2346Prudential
California Realty

New Real Estate Program can reduce fees and commissions by 50%

BAY AREA - www.Homes-Link.com a real estate company based in Alameda CA has developed a revolutionary concept in real estate sales called Open Listings which is guaranteed to save home sellers 50% while meeting all California Department of Real Estate rules and standards. The concept is so revolutionary that it has the larger franchise based companies up in arms and scrambling for effective ways to combat it. This program even out-discounts Costco, the king of discounts. For example: Costco's discount on the sale of a home priced from \$200,000 TO \$224,999 is \$1,775 while

Homes-Link will save the homeowner from \$6,000 TO \$6,749.97. On a home priced between \$300,000 and \$349,999, Costco's savings is \$2,800 and at Homes-Link the savings grows to \$9,000 - \$10,499.97. The savings continue to go up from there.

The program is deceptively simple. Sellers work along side their realtor in a partnership based program. The program is a fee for services rendered program rather than a flat 6% commission as is charged by conventional real estate companies. By using a fee for services based program, smart sellers in today's market are

enjoying sales prices in many cases over asking price in surprisingly quick order. This simple, easy to understand program has saved hundreds of home-sellers thousands of dollars in unnecessary real estate commissions, while allowing them additional dollars for their next purchase or for their retirement plans.

The Open Listing program has received rave reviews from scores of happy and satisfied clients throughout the east bay. For further information in your area call: 1-800-676-0467 ext. 931 Or log on at www.homes-link.com

Advertisement

Recent Client Savings

397 Capetown Dr., Alameda
Savings \$8,500
3811-13 Clark St., Oakland
Savings \$8,697
16305 Maubert A.B.C.D.
Hayward
Savings \$9,000
713 Baywood Dr., Alameda
Savings \$10,350
4938 Stoneridge Ct., Oakland
Savings \$13,365
15 Littlewood Dr., Piedmont
Savings \$13,580
5600 Boulder Cyn, Hayward
Savings \$15,870

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A rare opportunity in a desirable complex with pool. Three bedrooms, three baths, living room with fireplace, vaulted ceilings and filtered bay view. Offered at \$360,000
Katherine Cooper
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NEW LISTING!

OPEN SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 13 • 2 - 4:30



9323 Granada Ave., Oakland
Oak Knoll Gem

This charming, updated home is located in wonderful Oak Knoll, a neighborhood of traditional, custom designed, and well maintained homes.

- 3 Bedrooms, 1.5 baths
- Family room overlooking rear yard
- Vaulted ceiling in living room
- Updated eat-in kitchen
- Random plank hardwood floors
- Approximately 1650 sq. ft.
- 2 Car garage w/ interior access

Offered at \$299,000

Tom Anthony
(510) 834-2300

PACIFIC UNION



Next To Park, 7 Years Young.....\$650,000

Coming Soon! Executive home. Large kitchen, family room, corner. Gorgeous master suite, 4 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths. Office, rec. rm.
Phil Wengrow ext. 245



Montclair - 1st Time On Market!.....\$565,000

Rare opportunity to buy an all level 4BD, 3BA home with large family / rec. rm. Level lot to .29 acre lot.
Carol Cohen ext. 225



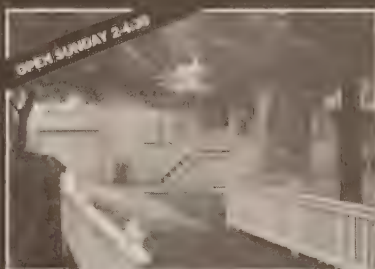
Montclair Traditional.....\$449,000

Close to village! 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, plank hardwood, huge double lot. Large family room + vista view. Attached double garage.
Hal Castle ext.



Montclair Contemporary.....\$439,000

New listing! Stunning custom built 3+ bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, hardwood, fireplace, formal dining room, 2 car garage, minutes from Montclair Village & regional parks.
Victor Sierra ext. 248



New Listing - Montclair.....\$325,000

"Old World" But like new! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, level lot, creek setting, hardwood, master suite, private patio. Never kitchen + baths.
Hal Castle ext. 220



On A Clear Day You Can See Forever.....\$150,000

Adams Point 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, condo just upstairs! Fresh paint, new floor coverings, new kitchen appliances! San Francisco views, community pool, just listed!
Telen Nicholas ext. 238

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Selling a home every 24 hours. How quickly would you like to move?

Check out 103 percent Maximizer Loan


John and Mary wanted to buy their first home. Recently married and just out of college, they had concentrated on paying off student loans and other credit card debt from their wedding and honeymoon. Their attention to paying off their consumer debt helped establish a superior credit rating with credit scores in the mid- to high-700s.

Both have high-paying jobs in high tech, but they have not been able to put much money away for a down payment. They were afraid that they were years away from purchasing a home.

The new 103 percent Maximizer Loan is for them. This loan program offers a 15- and a 30-year fixed rate mortgage allowing 103 percent financing which may include prepaid items (prorated taxes, prepaid interest, insurance and reserves), financed mortgage insurance and closing costs. The guidelines are strict and without exceptions for compensating factors.

The Maximizer Loan is available only for purchases, and is not restricted to first-time homebuyers. The property must be a one unit, primary residence and if a condo or townhouse, must be warrantable by Freddie Mac.

Mortgage Madness



By Karen Senzig

"This program offers a 15- and a 30-year fixed rate mortgage allowing 103 percent financing..."

Rural properties are acceptable, provided that land-to-value ratio doesn't exceed 40 percent.

The maximum loan amount is \$325,000. That is based on a maximum base amount of \$315,534 when including 3 percent of prepaid items, closing costs and/or financed mortgage insurance.

Borrowers must have a minimum credit score of 700, and that would be the middle of three credit bureaus or the lesser of two. Borrowers must have a credit history of at least three traditional credit references (such as credit cards, automobile financing, installment payments, student loans, etc.) that have been open for at least 24 months.

Borrowers must show no major derogatory credit in the last seven years; no more than one 30-day mortgage late payment in the last 24 months and no more than one credit card or installment loan late payments in the last 12 months. There can be no late payments in the last three months. There can be no previous history of bankruptcy or foreclosure — no exceptions.

Borrowers' income must qualify with the top or housing ratio (housing expense — principal, interest, taxes, insurance and mortgage insurance divided by income) not to exceed 33 percent.

The bottom ratio, which is the housing expense plus monthly consumer debt divided by the borrowers' income, cannot exceed 38 percent.

Unacceptable sources of income include capital gains and retained earnings.

And the borrowers must qualify on their own. Cosigners, better known as non-occupant co-borrowers, such as Mom and Dad or uncle Pete, are not allowed. The borrowers must take title as individuals rather than a trust and the program will not allow borrowers who are non permanent resident aliens.

There are no down payment requirements, but two months PITI (principal, interest, taxes and insurance) of the borrowers' own funds are required.

Gifts are acceptable but they must be from a borrower's relative, domestic partner or fiancée/fiancee. Gift funds obtained as a wedding gift are fine as long as they are documented properly. Some employers offer "employer assisted housing funds" which can be a secured loan to pay prepaid items and closing costs.

Unacceptable sources for closing costs and prepaid items include funds from credit cards, bridge loans, cash on hand, pooled funds and sweat equity.

Although the guidelines are strict and offer no exceptions to this rule based underwriting loan program, we are sure there are many people like John and Mary who through this new loan program will experience the joys of Mortgage Madness.

Karen Senzig is co-owner of Montclair Mortgage with her husband, Scott. She can be reached at 510-339-8511; fax 510-339-3814 and E-mail ksenzig@aol.com. Please contact her with mortgage questions for discussion.

Some lenders not reporting on-time payments

If you are among the millions of Americans whose credit histories aren't quite perfect, answer these two questions:

■ Have you been trying to improve your credit standing by scrupulously paying your mortgage and credit card bills on time every month?

■ Would you be upset to learn that your solid, on-time payment performance isn't being documented anywhere, and therefore won't help you get a lower interest rate the next time you apply for a home mortgage or an equity loan?

Get ready to be upset. Federal officials and private-sector credit agencies say the practice of nonreporting of mortgage and credit card payment performances is abusive and widespread. Federal financial regulators just issued an advisory to the nation's banks urging them to take defensive steps to guard against the potentially harmful effects of the practice.

Nation's Housing

By Kenneth R. Harney

Here's what's involved: You might assume that all your major credit transactions — how much you borrowed on your mortgage, how high a limit you've got on your credit card — show up on your credit files.

But that's not the case, especially if you're a homeowner with some minor dents in your past payment performances.

That's because some mortgage lenders and credit card companies hide you from potential competitors. They no longer report your payment histories to the three national credit reporting bureaus — Equifax, Experian and Trans Union. They do that, according to federal officials familiar with the practice, to keep other lenders from knowing how solid and

profitable your account is. Aggressive lenders routinely surf through credit files electronically to identify and harvest potential prospects for home refinancings, home equity credit lines and credit card offers.

Among the most attractive prospects: people who are paying higher-than-market interest rates on their mortgages because of prior credit problems, but who nonetheless make their payments on time every month. Many of them expect that their on-time payments will help re-

establish their credit records and enable them to qualify for lower rates in the future.

But, says deputy comptroller of the currency David Gibbons, that's not necessarily true. Nonreporting of payment performances by some mortgage lenders means their customers "aren't getting a fair shake. They're caught in a self-fulfilling prophecy," says Gibbons — they've started as borrowers with subpar

See HARNEY, Page B10

New Listing



360 Mountain Avenue, Piedmont

This gracious traditional-style home in central Piedmont has six bedrooms upstairs and a complete "au pair" suite with separate entry; grand-scale formal rooms; large, country kitchen, family room, handsome library with fireplace; media room. Large, level yard!

Offered at: \$ 2,195,000

For additional information, or a private showing, please call

Georgia Cornell
(510) 339-6460 ext. 325

PACIFIC UNION

Coming Soon

Crocker Highlands

Spacious traditional home with 3BR/1BA, crown moldings, hardwood floors, patio & garden.

Offered at \$425,000



Glenview

Classic Glenview traditional with hardwood floors, spacious eat-in kitchen. 1BR/1BA & den & office.

Offered at \$299,000



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Charming, Convenient.
Excellent Condition.
Dining Room. Fireplace.
3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath.

JUST LISTED:




2 CAVENDISH LANE • \$499,000

Private Piedmont contemporary. 3+BD/2+BA. LR with fireplace. Family room, updated kitchen. New interior & ext. paint. New roof.

151 LAKESIDE DRIVE • \$90,000

Lake View Condo. Top floor studio unit. Soaring ceilings, hardwood floors. Bright. Move-in condition.

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Great Location!.....\$175,000

This sunny and spacious condo, has a good floor plan with a deck. The 16 unit building is mostly owner occupied. Located near the Rose Garden & Piedmont Ave. Good freeway access.

Open Sun. 2-4. 695 Mariposa #202, Oakland.

Matean Everson 559-2926




Beautiful Tri-level MacGregor.....\$225,000

Wonderfully spacious 3+ bdrm., 2 bath home on large corner lot in N&E. Remodeled kitchen, formal dining rm., arches and crown and sep breakfast room. 2 car attached garage

Open Sun. 2-4. 661 29th St., Richmond N&E.


Mary Gray 559-2939



Beautiful Professional Building.....\$275,000

Over 3000 sq. ft. single level attractive property with off street parking for 15 cars. 13 rooms including kitchen, one full bath and two half baths.

Doris Alexander 559-2938




Richmond Annex Gem.....\$229,000

Two bedroom cutie in great condition. Sunny and airy with a big yard

Open Sun. 2-4. 5612 Sutter, Richmond Annex.

Joan Underwood 559-2911

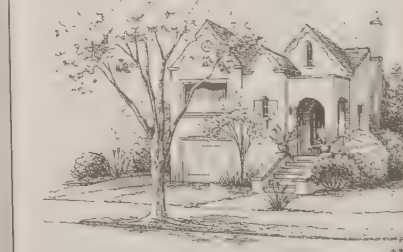


Rockridge - New Listing.....\$410,000

1916 2 story "farmhouse" on deep lot. Light, charm & great Rockridge location. Walk to shops and BART. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath

Open Sun. 2-4. 392 61st St.

Kathie Berg 559-1444 x34



539 Neilson Street, Berkeley.....\$399,000

On quiet, tree-lined street within a block of Colusa Circle. Desirable 2 bedroom, 2 bath split level home. Charming updated kitchen opens to landscaped yard. Extra storage in attic!

For more information call Ann Arriola Plant, 527-2700 x27

Open Sun. 2-4:30

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Please read to thirsty young minds

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call 339-8787

You'll be glad you did!

— Hills Newspapers

Knowledge proves key to home security

WE WERE RAISED in a small industrial community of 10,000 people. We had a Main Street, a milkman, and once or twice a week Mr. Inzerello, the produce man, would drive by with his truckload of fresh vegetables.

There must have been some local crime, but stealing hubcaps was the worst of it.

We didn't worry about our home being robbed. That just didn't seem to be much of a problem. We didn't lock our doors — even at night.

Things have changed. It's now important to know as much as you can about protecting the place in which you live. Whether you live in a big city, small town or rural community, has a large income or small, is a homeowner or an apartment dweller, burglary can be a serious problem.

The biggest problem of all is that we tend to make the burglar's job easier. Believe it or not,



By Morris and James Carey

burglary is one of the single most preventable crimes.

To find out just how much you know about home-security and safety, take this quiz from Sears.

When you finish, here are some more tips for burglar-proofing and making your home safer.

■ Important papers should be kept in the freezer, and small easy-to-pilfer valuables should be kept in a safe.

■ After the kitchen, the second most common place for a fire to start is in the garage.

■ Automatic timers should turn lights on and off randomly.

■ Any decoy car parked in front of your home during your absence should be regularly moved.

■ Never leave your house keys outside your home, especially on the top of the door trim or under the mat.

■ If you have an answering machine, its volume should also be turned down.

■ Keep doors and windows locked.

■ Make sure that perimeter lighting is ample. Light places where a stranger could hide, such as shrubs and behind the trash can.

■ Get an alarm. And make sure to post stickers that say "this home is protected by an alarm" on all windows and doors.

■ Surprisingly, professional

burglars do not commit most burglaries. Burglary ordinarily involves someone you know.

■ To avoid the risk of not being able to get out of your home in a fire, deadbolt locks should be operable from the outside with a key and from the inside with a simple latch.

■ Roll-down window and door security blinds, steel security doors, window bars and other security devices that protect windows and doors should be easily opened from the inside; not just by you, but by youngsters and elders as well.

Pittsburgh contractors Morris and James O. Carey can be heard Saturday mornings on KSFO 560 AM. Write the Carey Brothers, c/o the Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020-1666, or e-mail them at careybro@onthehouse.com. Their Web site is at www.onthehouse.com.

Home safety quiz

About security-related topics and the safety of your home and family.

1. If you are planning to hide articles such as jewelry in your home, what room is likely to be the first to be searched by a burglar?

a. Bedroom b. Kitchen c. Basement d. Bathroom

2. Where is the most common place for home fires to start?

a. Kitchen b. Furnace room c. Fuse box d. Room with fireplace

3. To help discourage a home break-in when you are away on vacation, it is most important to:

a. Use an automatic timer to turn lights on and off
b. Have a neighbor park their car outside your home and collect your mail.
c. Not discuss your travel plans in public areas.
d. Never hide your house keys outside of your home.
e. Turn the bell or ringer on your telephone down f. All of the above.

5. You are awakened by the sound of an intruder entering your home. What should you do?

a. Scream for help b. Try to get out of the house
c. Pretend you're asleep d. Turn on a light

6. A woman comes to your door saying she has had an accident and needs to use your phone. What should you do?

a. Let her make the call but stay with her.
b. Tell her that you will make the call, but don't ask her inside
c. Ask her to go elsewhere for help

7. When you are not home, your child should:

a. Never tell an unknown caller they are home alone
b. Never answer the telephone unless they know who is calling
c. Use an answering machine to screen calls.
d. All of the above

8. What percentage of home burglaries happen because a door or window is unlocked?

a. 10%-30% b. 30%-50% c. 50%-70%

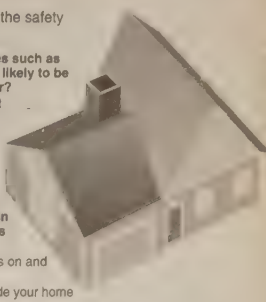
9. Typical crime victims tend to be:

a. Single females, living alone. b. Elderly couples
c. Single, unemployed young males.
d. Suburban young families

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Source: Sears

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Even with permit, work was done wrong

Q When we purchased our home, the seller informed us that the added bathroom was built with a permit. We even showed us a copy. Recently, when we opened up the walls to do some repairs, we discovered numerous plumbing and electrical violations. How can so many things be wrong if the work was permitted and approved?

A: Fortunately, you decided to open the walls for repairs. Otherwise, the conditions that lie silent behind walls could at some point have engendered deadly consequences.

The Inspector Is In



By Barry Stone

"When someone shows you a permit, check for authorized signatures."

It is an easy matter to acquire a building permit. All you need is a

set of approved plans and the ability to pay the fees. But the municipal inspector does not visit the property simply because a permit is on file. Inspections only take place when the owner or builder notifies the building department that various stages of construction are completed.

Occasionally, people acquire building permits but, for one reason or another, never begin construction. Therefore, it does not arouse attention when a permit is taken and no inspection is requested.

On rare occasions, an owner

will obtain a permit and complete construction without calling for an inspection. When this occurs, the owner can then display the permit to interested parties, such as prospective buyers. Those seeing the permit naturally assume that the work was officially scrutinized and approved, when quite the opposite may be true.

When someone shows you a permit for completed construction work, be sure to check for authorized signatures on the inspection card. If the card is not available,

See STONE, Page B11

Coldwell Banker's #1 Team



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Oakland/Piedmont Office

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New Listing

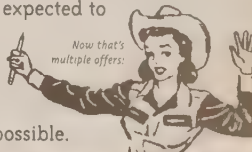
5511 LaSalle Avenue, Montclair
The dramatic entry of this lovely home features floor to ceiling windows that capture the lovely parklike view. Three bedrooms, two baths and family room. Offered at \$599,000
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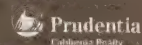
Think of this as EBay for houses. I'm looking for one seller in Berkeley/Oakland who is willing to participate in an Internet auction of their house. Prudential is partnering with Yahoo! to conduct this first-time auction of houses on the net.

Over 60,000 people are expected to view the house and over 5,000 are expected to bid. For the details, contact me as soon as possible.



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NEW MARTINEZ LISTING.....\$314,000
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TIM AHLBERG 925-837-2200

VIEWS! VIEWS! VIEWS!.....\$449,950
Nice 3BD, 2.5BA detached home with 2 balconies and views. Formal living room has marble fireplace. Eat-in kitchen has sliding glass door leading to balcony with patio. Spacious master bedroom with large walk-in closet. Vaulted ceilings, indoor laundry and more!
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Call for details: 925-837-2200

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Vent-free gas fireplaces easy to install

Q: To cut costs, I plan to add a fireplace to my living room myself, so I am looking at vent-free gas models for simplicity. What design and comfort features should I consider, and are they safe to use?

A: Vent-free gas fireplaces are very easy to install yourself. It's wise to have a plumber attach the gas line or propane tank, though. Since no chimney or vent is needed, it can be located anywhere in your living room. They are 99.9 percent efficient, making one an inexpensive source of heat.

Depending on your level of do-it-yourself skills, there are many options. For the most technically challenged, purchase the complete package with gas logs, firebox and decorative real wood or contemporary mantel/surround. If you are handy with tools, build a custom surround and mantel yourself.

Two-sided see-through models, often mounted beneath a bar, and corner models take up little floor space, yet provide plenty of heat. A three-sided cove model provides a focal point for people to relax around. You can completely install one of these models in two hours or less. In addition to style, the primary features to consider are the

Cut Your Utility Bills



By James Duley

"Depending on your level of do-it-yourself skills, there are many options."

controls and whether you need an optional blower. Hand-held remote controls, for on off and temperature control from your easy chair, are most convenient.

If you need one for supplemental heat for the entire room, an electric blower option makes sense. If you are going to install a see-through or cove model, more for the ambience of the flames, a blower is probably not needed.

By far the majority of states and localities allow vent-free fireplaces to be used in homes. Always check your local codes before installing one in your house. Many homes already have a vent-free gas heater — the kitchen range. When cooking a large holiday dinner, it probably

burns more gas than a fireplace would. Around 1980, all vent-free gas logs, fireplaces, heaters, etc. included an oxygen depletion (detection) sensor — ODS. If the oxygen level in the room drops to 18 percent, ODS shuts off the gas automatically.

Built-in super-hot catalysis are becoming more common in gas fireplaces. These work like a catalytic converter in your car to reduce pollution. By using a catalyst hidden up inside the firebox, the dancing gas flames can be made to look more like real wood flames while emitting very little CO.

The key to safe operation is to follow the manufacturer's usage guidelines. A vent-free fireplace should be used for supplemental heat only. Install the proper size (gas usage) log set for your climate and the airtightness of your house. Write for Update Bulletin No. 629, a buyer's guide of vent-free gas fireplaces, heat outputs, sizes, catalysis, features and a sizing chart.

To receive Utility Updates, send \$3 (checks payable to Duley) and a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to James Duley, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244.



Karen & Scott Senzig

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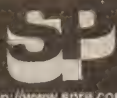
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RICHMOND ANNEX

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VIEW LOT!.....\$54,500
Deep in Wildcat Canyon, near Regional Park! Downslope, with soils report. Quiet area in the woods! #00005603 Cynthia Burke (510) 262-0949

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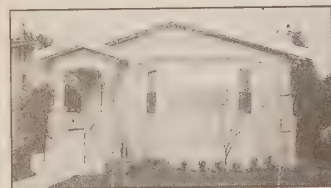
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ALBANY 915 Filmore.
Rare opportunity for newer construction in Albany with Bay views. Artistically designed kitchen, hrdwd flrs, skylights, vaulted ceilings. Master suite with 2 add'l bdrms & 2 1/2 total baths, level backyard & garage
Chris Ehlers-Hardie
524-9888 x 22
\$399,000



BERKELEY 2700 Le Conte #304. Oaks! Elegant, chic architect-remodel of this fabulous 1 bdrm. condo. Brilliant new layout opens bdrm to bright living space; southwest orientation. Fireplace & balcony. Designer kit. & bathroom. Plantation blinds, upgrades galore! Enclosed parking.
Joan Brunstwick
524-9888 x 12
\$259,000



ALBANY 949 Cornell. Your Valentine will love you for this special home, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, hardwood floors with inlays. Freshly painted interior and exterior. Large two-car garage with big back yard. Like Albany schools, this one is a 10!
Bill McDowell • 524-9888 x 30



ALBANY 1031 Talbot Ave. For Your Valentine! 2+ bedroom darling cottage. Plus room ideal for office of bedroom for kids. Private backyard. Great condition.

Tracy Sichtermann • 524-9888 x 27

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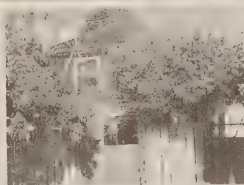
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SAN LEANDRO Normandy Cottage, 3/1	-----	\$359,000

RICHMOND MacGregor, remodeled	-----	\$136,000
Annex Starter	-----	\$109,000
Great Big Home, 4/2	-----	\$129,000
North Berkeley Lots Easy Downslope, Filtered Views	-----	\$250,000
Upslope, 2 lots	-----	\$130,000 for both
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Preview of Coming Attractions

West Berkeley Bungalow
with Artists Studio

Secluded Kensington
Home, 3 bdr with au pare

San Francisco Victorian
2 bedrooms

DO-IT-YOURSELFER ADVICE:

Ask an expert about tools, shingles, moisture

By Gene Austin
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Q We recently had cedar shingles installed on the sides of our house and would like to prevent them from weathering to a gray color. Is there anything we can use to retard weathering and/or restore the original color?

A Many owners of unpainted wood siding, decks and outdoor furniture want to avoid the weathering or graying that comes with aging. All types of wood, including the pressure-treated wood often used for decks, are subject to this graying, which is caused by exposure to ultraviolet rays from the sun.

Graying can be retarded, but not eliminated, by coating the wood with a sealer that will block some of the UV rays. Deck-and-siding sealers are sold under many brand names at paint stores, home centers and building supply outlets.

Many products of this type also retard mildew and repel water, which can discolor and damage exposed wood. Before buying any product of this type, read all instructions on the container to make sure it suits the application.

One widely used product to retard graying is CWF-UV Clear Wood Finish, made by Flood Co.; 800-321-3444.

A new product is Wolman Extreme, which has a two-year guarantee for color retention. Wolman Extreme is actually a lightly toned stain, available in five shades including cedar and redwood; 800-556-7737.

"The solution to window condensation is to reduce the humidity and/or improve the energy efficiency of the windows so the glass stays warmer."

When wood is already weathered, it must be thoroughly cleaned before applying a sealer. Proper cleaning will restore much of the original color, even to wood that has turned a deep gray and is stained with mildew. Many brands of special wood cleaners are sold, including Wolman's Deck & Fence Brightener and Flood's Dekwood.

Q We have an old Stanley screwdriver with replaceable bits. The tool needs a part. Is this company still in business?

A The Stanley Works, a leading maker of hand tools, is alive and well in New Britain, Conn.: 800-262-2161.

Q I own an old house with hot-water heat and big cast-iron radiators. I am tired of letting air out of the radiators every few months. Can you help?

A Automatic valves are available that eliminate the need to "bleed" air from radiators by hand. The valves sell for about \$5 each at plumbing-supply and heating-supply dealers.

Incidentally, it is not necessary to bleed radiators unless they are not heating properly. If a radiator feels warm all over, let it alone.

Q The walls of our home are very cold in winter. Is there some way we can insulate them, perhaps by removing the inside window trim and squirting foam insulation into the walls?

A Walls with hollow spaces can often be insulated by blowing insulation into them through a series of small holes. The holes are generally drilled from the outside, then plugged with a matching siding material after the insulation is installed.

This is a very tricky procedure and should be done by an experienced insulating contractor. A special machine to pump the insulation is required.

If the area around the windows feels cold and drafty, it is possible there are gaps that can be closed with caulking compound. Caulk around the outside of the windows at the joint where the window frames meet the siding.

Often-asked question:

Q Moisture condenses on the inside of our windows every morning in cold weather. Is this harmful and what can be done about it?

A Severe condensation on windows can be harmful if the wa-

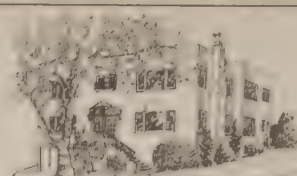
ter drains into the walls or onto wood or other surfaces where it can cause rot and stains. A little condensation that evaporates when the temperature rises is generally harmless.

Condensation is most common in homes where there is excessive humidity. Water vapor generated by humidifiers, baths, showers, cooking, laundering and watering plants condenses on cold surfaces such as window glass.

The solution to window condensation is to reduce the humidity and/or improve the energy efficiency of the windows so the glass stays warmer. For example, condensation is usually less of a problem in homes that have modern "thermal" windows with double glazing or two panes of glass. If a window has only one pane of glass, installing an effective storm window will sometimes reduce condensation.

To reduce humidity in a house, turn off humidifiers or set them back so that less moisture is produced. Use exhaust fans in bathrooms and kitchen so that moisture generated in those rooms is expelled outside. Make sure clothes dryers are vented to the outside, and don't hang wet clothes to dry in the basement.

Readers' questions and comments are welcome and should be sent to Gene Austin, the Philadelphia Inquirer, Box 861, Blue Bell, Pa. 19422. Questions cannot be answered personally.



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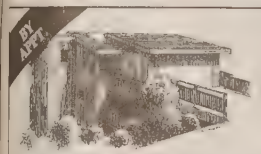
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Piedmont - Creekside Setting. Spacious traditional. 4+BD/3.5BA with over 3000 sq. ft., formal DR, den and rumpus room, French doors, 3 FP's, level garden & brick patio. Open 2 - 5 p.m.
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758 Trestle Glen Rd......\$429,000
Crocker Highlands - Mediterranean. 3BD/1.5BA. 2 plus rms. Sunroom up, breakfast room down formal DR, lg LR, lovely garden. Walk to shops.
Becky Andersen

1634 Grant St......\$425,000
Berkeley - Charming Victorian Great curb appeal! 2BD/1BA, extra space for home office. Detached Japanese teahouse w/traditional bath & more. Lovely yard. Open 1 - 4 p.m.
Donna Conroy

5808 Ayala.....\$260,000
Rockridge - Fixer-upper duplex. Opportunity for the handyman!
Don Coelho

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

155 Pine Hills Lane.....\$469,000
Montclair - Dramatic contemporary with soaring ceiling, gleaming hardwood floors. 2 fireplaces, recreation room, 3 bedrooms/2+ baths. Near parks. Filtered bay view.
Ruby Ng/Karen Lum

132 Cambridge Way.....\$499,000
Piedmont - 3BD/2BA With charming living room, spacious kitchen/family room, deck, yard & playhouse for storage or hobbies.
Suzanne Yamamoto

BY APPOINTMENT

San Francisco.....\$650,000
Spanish Style. Charming 2,000 sq. ft. home. Lots of potential, garage, Forest Hill Extension. Handyman special.
Lani Dy

Rockridge/Elmwood.....\$499,000
Brown Shingle. Elmwood charm - Rockridge convenience. Loads of old world charm in this 3BD home. Large level yard, den.
Terry Kulka

Montclair.....\$600,000
Montclair View Home. Stylish 4BD/3BA contemporary with SF Bay and downtown Oakland views. Dramatic LR, kitchen/family room, spacious master.
Dian Hymer

Oakmore.....\$475,000
Oakmore Beauty. Beautiful Oakmore traditional. 3BD, updated kit, FDR, hardwood flrs, frpl.
Joan Alford

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Donna Conroy

Oakmore.....\$399,000
Inviting ambience. Traditional with vaulted ceiling LR, Formal DR, intelligent floor plan. 3BD/2BA. Great outdoor living.
Karen Lum

Montclair.....\$309,000
Great Value! Sunny & spacious 3BD/1.5BA on corner lot. Close to schools, shopping & transportation. Hdwd flrs, glass block detail & level out to patio.
Darcy Diamantine

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George Karsant
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BAY VIEWS FROM NORTH BERKELEY.....\$569,000
Gracious Berkeley hills Mediterranean with Bay Views from two floors three + bedrooms, two baths, formal dining, and hardwood floors, yard and patio, plus garage. Walk to UC, shops and restaurants.



1912 DUPLEX IN BOOMING WEST BERKELEY.....\$319,500
JUST LISTED! Needs some work, but what a find! Hardwood floors, wainscoting, coved ceilings, formal dining room, 3 bedroom and two bath units, both vacant. Walk to 4th street.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

1409 Oxford #3.....\$325,000
3BD/2BA condo. Walk to Gourmet Ghetto.
Jeanne McHugh

6236 Arlington.....\$238,800
3+BD/2BA w/lam rm, hdwd flrs.
Kim Cleveland

BY APPOINTMENT

4+ BEDROOM TUDOR WITH HUGE VIEWS.....\$645,000
JUST LISTED! Immaculate home on the hills, many quality up grade, views from three levels. Hardwood floors, two fireplaces, Chef's kitchen, three full baths. Rear yard w/level lawn, two car garage.

WALK TO WALNUT SQUARE & CHEZ PANISSE.....\$325,000
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BEAUTIFULLY REMODE NORTH BERKELEY VICTORIAN.....\$435,000
JUST LISTED! Just blocks from the Gourmet Ghetto! Five bedrooms, three full baths with modern systems, craftsman style, & formal dining Master suite with French doors that open. Deck off remodeled kitchen.

RICHMOND VIEW, READY FOR YOU.....\$238,800
JUST LISTED! Move right in and enjoy! New interior paint, refinished hardwood floors, remodeled bath! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths plus family room. Walk to school and transportation.

CLASSIC BERKELEY CRAFTSMAN.....\$389,000
JUST LISTED! Lovely details throughout in this two bedroom, one bath home, with many upgrades! Includes formal dining and den/study, plus private yard with hot tub. Walk to Solano shops.

HIGH IN THE EL CERRITO HILLS.....\$379,000
JUST LISTED! Enjoy Bay views from this spacious two story home in a great El Cerrito neighborhood four bedrooms, two baths with an eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors on the main level and an attached two-car garage.

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Rise and shine: Housewares of the future have arrived

By Diane Goldsmith
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

COOKING PANS that beep or change color when they're hot enough to start sautéing. Bagless vacuum cleaners with sensors that indicate when all the deep-down dirt in a carpet has been pulled out. We shouldn't be surprised that housewares are getting smarter than we are. Over the years, we've let the housework slide and begun reheating takeout. These products and more, shown at the recent International Housewares Show in Chicago, demonstrate that affordable solutions can be found to keep household performance on track — even as we move through life with ever-changing needs and physical capacity.

At least, that's the firm belief of Patricia Moore, a principal with the Philadelphia-based BresslerGroup design consultants and one of the speakers who addressed the trade.

A gerontologist as well as a designer, Moore is always reminding manufacturers that they must consider all their customers when creating products, and that sometimes a lower-tech "retrofit may work better than a whole-ball-of-wax approach."

Indeed, both were in evidence — as was everything in between — in McCormick Place, as 60,000 people filled the aisles to inspect the latest in cookware, tableware, small appliances, home health care, cleaning and storage.

For those who would convert their kitchen into a command post, there was the Icebox from CMi Worldwide, an "information appliance" that has some computer technology. An all-in-one display and control unit with a wireless keyboard and remote pad, it can check home security while pro-

viding information, entertainment and communications. Either mounted out of the way or placed on the counter, the compact Icebox ranges from \$499 to \$2,000, with discounts available depending on Internet-access rebates.

It also has the ability to program other appliances.

"What we're doing is working with appliance manufacturers to build the interface to do that," said Russ Whitman, vice president of business development with CMi.

In its Smart House exhibit, Sunbeam introduced several new appliances that can talk to one another and to the Internet without a PC. "Home Linking Technology" sends high-frequency signals over existing home wiring — or with appliances that don't plug in, via radio frequencies — to communicate.

These appliances — including a coffee maker, electric blanket and stand mixer — will be priced comparably to mid- to upper-range products and will hit the market by the end of the year, said Glen Cunningham of Thalia Products, which is developing the first wave of smart appliances for Sunbeam and licensing the technology to others.

"Most higher-end or mid-range products like a coffee maker with a timer already have a microcontroller in them," Cunningham added. "We can use the same chip, or upgrade it to increase memory to give it space to put in HLT software that controls the power line."

At the lower-tech end of the spectrum was the ArthritisCorrect line of devices from Frank Halstead Presents for those who have lost the ability to grasp and hold because of arthritis. Priced at a few dollars each, these practical items attach to door-knobs, keys and food containers to provide the leverage and balance to



THIS SUNBEAM coffee maker communicates with a companion alarm clock — waking up when the owners do.

help turn knobs, open locks and pour soda.

Such pieces, as well as modified cookware, tableware and appliances, will become increasingly important in keeping the burgeoning number of seniors independent as they age, Moore said.

Targeting 'twens'

Another opportunity for the industry is the "tween" market, according to Jon Hauptman, who writes the National Housewares Manufacturers Association's annual "State of the Industry Report." These are children ages 7 to 13, Hauptman said, whose considerable purchasing power hit \$23.5 billion in 1998.

"It's no longer a case of Mom and Dad going to a department store and buying them everything they need for their bedroom at age 7," he said, adding that this group is in the market for CD holders, picture frames, bedroom accessories, accessories for their computer desks — even curtains, shades, chairs, shelves and bookcases, as they aim to personalize their rooms.

Exhibitors at the housewares show displayed items "tailored specifically to this age group by the way they were promoted, by their design, and by colors," Hauptman said, citing "bedding and interesting, cool, funky bedroom lights — one in particular being a lamp shaped like a light bulb, but more decorative than anything — as well as personal-care items targeted specifically to very young people."

Form follows lifestyle

Convenience is, and will continue to be, another issue critical in product development, trends consultant Susan Hayes told the trade show. In our time-starved society, "conve-

nience will be the hallmark of performance," she promised, and her words were reflected in everything from appropriate storage to window coverings. In fact, one interesting product along these lines was Wallpaper for Windows, adhesive-free vinyl films available in decorator patterns to cover windows in lieu of more traditional treatments.

Trends in lifestyle accounted for other products. Increased participation in recreational sports, for instance, was reflected in the proliferation of special storage systems that, in limited space, can accommodate several types of balls, rackets, bikes and the like.

Continuing interest in personal care and health, meanwhile, found expression in everything from relaxation fountains to air cleaners, aromatherapy to body-fat monitors, and massagers to magnetic therapy. At Homedics' booth, there were magnetic therapy insoles, magnetic therapy bracelets, magnetic therapy slippers, magnetic therapy dots, and more.

"It's a rising part of our business," according to marketing chief Paulette Abraham, who says magnetic therapy can enhance blood flow and reduce pain. "We have thousands of testimonials on it."

In cookware, a belief in the benefits of grilling may partly explain the barrage of indoor grills that were on display. With 12 million of the Lean Mean Fat-Reducing Grilling Machines under his belt, George Foreman is the undisputed champ of this category. So no surprise that manufacturer Salton Inc. has come out with new items bearing his name: a countertop rotisserie, a multi-use countertop grill, an indoor-outdoor barbecue, and not one but two sets of grill pans.

Harney

FROM PAGE B6

credit, but because their excellent recent performances aren't being reported to the credit bureaus, their files show no improvements.

Gibbons believes the practice of selective nonreporting could have fair-

lending implications as well. If statistical studies that minority groups are more likely to carry subpar credit scores than other groups are correct, he says, then minorities — especially African-Americans and Hispanics — could be hurt by nonreporting more than other consumers.

Big companies involved

Financial regulators decline to iden-

tify individual companies who engage in nonreporting, but they say some are among the largest lenders in the United States. For its part, an organization representing nearly 400 consumer lenders, the American Financial Services Association, announced this month that its members have agreed not to withhold borrower information from credit bureaus. Among the companies covered by the pledge

are giants like Norwest Financial, GE Capital and Household International. Last year, Household — a major home equity lender — confirmed that it engaged in selective nonreporting as a defensive measure against competitors.

The recent advisory letter to banks, issued by the five major financial regulatory agencies, focused on the flip side of the nonreporting problem: the

implications for the "safety and soundness" of financial institutions who lend to consumers whose credit files are incomplete. Banks evaluating loan requests from borrowers who've frequently been late — but haven't been documented as such because their lender never reports to credit bureaus — "could inadvertently expose themselves to increased ... risk." The advisory urged banks to devise ways to

protect themselves against lending blindly to applicants whose credit records are "incomplete."

Kenneth R. Harney is a syndicated columnist who is president of the Harney Corp., a publishing and consulting firm based in Chevy Chase, Md. Write to him c/o the Washington Post Writers Group, 1150 15th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20071.

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Getaways

FROM PAGE B1

Michael Kane of London will have two balconies to choose from when he wants to go outside and enjoy the sun at his new Oceania condominium in Sunny Isles Beach, Fla.

Both of them, he says, are as big as rooms, and can accommodate furniture as well as many guests. In fact, their total square footage — 1,400 — adds up to the size of a small house. That's what Kane was looking for. "I want to spend a lot of time outside," he said, in a phone call from his London home. "I wanted to be able to eat breakfast outside, to sunbathe. I also wanted to be able to entertain outside."

The demand for the outside areas reflects the back-to-nature yearnings of many people. A survey released earlier this year found that most Americans want to live amid natural open spaces, according to American Express, a research firm in Oakland.

That is especially true in warmer climates like California and Florida, builders say. "We are in Florida, of all places. This is where people want to enjoy the outside, from the beautiful sunrises to sunsets," said Lani Kahn Droy, marketing director of Lowell Homes.

Making the most of a view

Many buyers with a view out their window, whether it's the ocean, a lake or a golf course, want to capitalize on that by having a balcony to

enjoy it, said Fernando Martinez, vice president of marketing for Caribe Homes. His company is offering about half a dozen models with various kinds of balconies in its latest development.

Customers want the "tranquility, the serenity we need at the end of the day. Can you imagine going out to the balcony at the end of the day? Having your coffee there? It really helps with the day-to-day stress," Martinez said.

"People use them as a retreat, a quiet place," said Jeff Auchter, Lennar's marketing director in Broward. "They're a great space to get away."

Lennar introduced balconies off second-floor master suites several years ago — and found them very popular. In fact, many buyers of new homes are willing to pay extra money — up to \$16,000 more — for an optional balcony, courtyard or covered terrace, says Nanette Plescia, a G.L. Homes vice president and project manager at SilverShores in Miramar. "They're a popular option," she said. "People can look out at the stars at night or enjoy the lake, if they bought a lakefront lot."

Like other builders, G.L. offers models with at least a small patio; several have covered terraces, and some two-story models have balconies or even room-size verandas.

Looking for individuality

Harold and Jessie Ramos were willing to pay extra to have an extended covered porch at their new home at Westbrooke's Monaco at Sunset Lakes in Miramar. "It pretty

much covers the whole half of the house," Harold Ramos said. "We wanted to enjoy the outdoors."

G.L.'s Plescia also says that buyers want an outdoor room because "it's kind of a prestigious look; it kind of makes a statement," even if the balcony is in the back.

"How the outside of homes look is more and more important," said Lowell's Kahn Droy, who added that people want their homes to look different from the others.

People are trying to get away from the cookie-cutter look, agrees real estate analyst Mark Cannon, residential division director of Integra Realty Resources in Miami, formerly known as Appraisal and Real Estate Economics Associates.

Having a balcony or courtyard can set a house apart from others, he says. And now many more builders are offering buyers a choice of courtyards, balconies and verandas in the front or back yards. Some are included in the price of the house; others cost extra.

Cannon says the craze for Mediterranean-styled homes also makes balconies and covered terraces popular. They're "definitely part of the architectural design," Cannon said. "They're very important in the super-luxury market."

Personal open space

Many wealthy buyers like to connect their compounds — main house, guest houses, servants' quarters, pool area — with columned loggias. "It adds to the ambience," he said.

Buyers of multimillion-dollar Fisher Island condominiums expect

high-loop drain line can be used to prevent back-siphonage. Again, the inspector heartily disagrees.

To us, this is all a bunch of confusing terminology. Meanwhile, the people who are buying our home insist that this problem be corrected in an approved manner. How do we sort through all of this conflicting technical advice?

A: Your question covers a number of issues and misconceptions regarding dishwasher drain lines. Let's take them one at a time:

■ An airgap typically appears as a small chrome cylinder commonly found on the back rim of most kitchen sinks. It is what plumbers call an anti-backflow device, because it prevents sewage from flowing back into the dishwasher.

Your inspector was correct in recommending that an airgap be installed. Although alternative methods are available, only an airgap is approved by the plumbing code, because it is the only method guaranteed to work in all circumstances.

■ A check valve is also an anti-

backflow device, and will also prevent sewage from siphoning into your dishwasher. The problem with a check valve is that it is not fool-proof. If a piece of food gets caught in a check valve, the valve can be permanently stuck in the open position, thereby defeating its function as a protective health and safety device. For this reason, a check valve is not permitted by code as an alternative to an airgap.

■ Handymen and some older plumbers commonly use the high-loop method of installing a dishwasher drain hose. This method can be effective in preventing back-siphonage, but only with low-pressure, low-level sewage backups. When sewage backs up under pressure, or when a backup reaches the level of the sink rim, the high-loop method is ineffective and will allow raw sewage to flow into the dishwasher and onto your dishes and tableware.

If your sink lacks a hole for installing an airgap, a plumber can usually drill an opening where needed.

Stone

FROM PAGE B7

consult the records of the local building department. Otherwise, the work hiding behind your walls may lie silent, but scream with deadly hazards.

Q: The inspector who checked our home says the dishwasher needs an airgap device on the drain line. His report states that an airgap is required because it can prevent a sewage backup from siphoning into the dishwasher.

The problem is, we have no place to install an airgap, because the hole on the back rim of the sink is being used for the water purifier. Instead of an airgap, our handyman has installed a check valve in the dishwasher drain hose below the sink, but the home inspector says this does not comply with code. The handyman says that airgaps and check valves are equally effective, and that even a

"The balcony is very big and the view is very beautiful: The big sky, the ocean," he said. "It's very relaxing to sit out there."

And that, he says, adds up to a very peaceful way of living.

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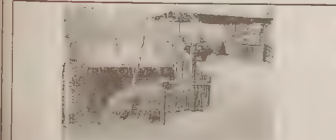
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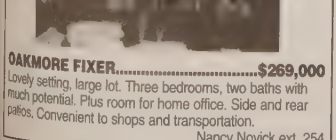
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1126 Marianas Ln - \$259,000
30 Ratto Rd - \$435,000
1701 St. Charles St - \$230,000
1825 Stanford St - \$227,000
633 Tarryton Isle Is - \$427,000
613 Tern Ln - \$326,000

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535 Pierce St #5401 - \$272,000
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265 Hillcrest Rd - \$810,000
2829 Hillgass Av #2 - \$377,000
1112 Hillview Rd - \$435,000
1154 Josephine St - \$489,500
1556 Juanita Wy - \$341,000
1067 Keith Av - \$369,000
1708 Marin Av - \$391,000
31 Northampton Av - \$455,000
1101 Oxford St - \$365,000
2815 Park St - \$235,000
1614 Posen Av - \$410,000
2415 Prince St - \$417,000
2810 Sacramento St - \$198,000
1230 Talbot Av - \$244,000
524 The Alameda - \$530,000
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827 16th St - \$225,000
833 16th St - \$235,000
1532 26th Av - \$180,000
2102 26th Av - \$133,000
1215 60th Av - \$120,000
2480 83rd Av - \$150,000
1450 86th Av - \$80,000
1130 88th Av - \$123,000
4207 Aqua Vista St - \$117,500
686 Arimo Av - \$401,000
6040 Aspinwall Rd - \$529,000
6912 Balsam Wy - \$245,000
5437 Belgrave Pl - \$418,000
389 Belmont St #405 - \$185,000
2952 Brookdale Av - \$155,000
3208 Burdeck Dr - \$449,000
2411 Burlingame St - \$400,000
240 Caldecott Ln #142 - \$190,000
320 Caldecott Ln #421 - \$221,000
120 Calvert Ct - \$615,000
6525 Chabot Rd - \$500,000
6900 Chambers Dr - \$440,000
5132 Cochrane Av - \$810,000
320 Creighton Wy - \$530,000
10429 Dante Av - \$146,500
3914 Delmont Av - \$170,000
5031 Dublin Av - \$415,000
1926 East 15th St - \$173,000
4201 East 17th St - \$113,000
5921 East 17th St - \$108,000
2323 East 27th St - \$168,000
1212 East 28th St - \$139,000
10526 East Ct - \$120,500
4721 Geranium Pl - \$325,000
11300 Golf Links Rd - \$450,000
4832 Gordon St - \$131,000
3572 Gray St - \$138,000
7100 Halliday Av - \$127,500
2516 Highland Av - \$135,000
3105 Holyrood Dr - \$547,000
551 Jean St #206 - \$92,500
498 Jean St - \$305,000
5959 Johnston Dr - \$586,000
4624 Kaplan Av - \$315,000
3060 Madeline St - \$277,000
5654 Margarido Dr - \$1,200,000
6028 Martin Luther King Wy - \$147,000
5637 Masonic Av - \$425,000
2315 Maywood Av - \$145,000
2901 Monterey Bl - \$270,000
567 Oakland Av #112 - \$160,000
567 Oakland Av - \$82,000
5617 Ocean View Dr - \$495,000
4112 Patterson Av - \$315,000
7020 Sayre Dr - \$320,000

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Real Estate Sales Provided By

Prudential
California Realty
3575 San Pablo Dam Road
El Sobrante, CA 94803

7892 Sunkist Dr - \$260,000

11 Embarcadero West #215 - \$103,000

7 Embarcadero West #313 - \$176,000

On the average

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 13
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$130,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$435,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$289,000
AVG. AMOUNT: \$305,038

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$168,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$395,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$266,000
AVG. AMOUNT: \$288,800

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 20
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$198,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$810,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$377,000
AVG. AMOUNT: \$391,775

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$202,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$202,500
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0
AVG. AMOUNT: \$202,500

4051 Whittle Av - \$285,000

1 Mesa Av - \$910,000

150 Ricardo Av - \$757,000

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 1

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$194,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$194,000

MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0

AVG. AMOUNT: \$194,000

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$109,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$228,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0
AVG. AMOUNT: \$168,750

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$420,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$420,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0
AVG. AMOUNT: \$420,000

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 60
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$ 80,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,200,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 190,000
AVG. AMOUNT: \$ 283,108

238 Sunnyside Av - \$358,000

761 10th St - \$144,000

560 27th St - \$150,000

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 3

LOWEST AMOUNT: \$358,000

HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$910,000

MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$757,000

AVG. AMOUNT: \$675,000

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 32
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$ 80,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$385,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$160,000
AVG. AMOUNT: \$181,219

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 23
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$130,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$450,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$242,000
AVG. AMOUNT: \$280,674

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$129,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$322,500
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$175,000
AVG. AMOUNT: \$209,700

NEW COMMUNITIES

AN EASY REFERENCE GUIDE TO NEW HOMES

ALAMEDA

1 The Gardens
From mid \$300,000's. 3 & 4BR, 2 story, 2 car gar., 1365-1676 sq ft. Great rooms, lots, avail. Alameda's newest! Website: www.schulera.com. Visit/r. to models. Open 10-5, Tues. 12-5. Also available at Starward in Dublin. 510-521-5347 www.schulera.com

ANTIOCH

2 Castellana at Black Diamond Knolls
From mid \$200,000's. New Release! Richland's lrg. 4 & 5 BR, 2200-2600 sq. ft. w/3 car gar., country kit, 7000+ sq. ft. lots. Lone Tree to Mokelumne Dr. Open 11-5. 925-706-8855 or www.richmondamerican.com

3 Lone Tree Estates-Masters Collection
From \$265,990. Models For Sale! Only 11 remain! Up to \$5K allowances. Rec. ctr./pool/spa/tennis. 2127-2866 sq. ft., 3-5BR/3 car gar. Lone Tree/Muirwood. Davidson Homes. www.homesbydavidson.com. Open 10-5. 925-778-3092

4 Tourelle
From low \$300,000's. New Release! Richland's 4-6BR/3-4 car gar., 1 & 2 stories, 2715-3935 sq. ft., 10,000+ sq. ft. lots. Dramatic entries. Lone Tree/Golf Course Rd. 11-5. 925-706-8883 or www.richmondinfo.com.

BRENTWOOD

5 Diablo Vista
From low \$200,000's. Affordable Luxury Living! Designs to 2700 sq. ft., 3BR, 3BA. Commute loc. at Fairview/San Jose. Richmond American Homes. 925-516-7193 www.richmondamerican.com

CONCORD

6 Crystyl Ranch
From mid \$400,000's. New Release! Luxury, rolling hills, 4 spac floor plans, 2400-3400 sq. ft., elegant int., custom. opts. Ygnacio Vly/r. on Pine Hollow/Rolling Woods Way. 925-687-3522/www.legacyluxuryhomes.com

DANVILLE

7 Campbell Place
From the \$800,000's. 20 craftsman-style on lg. view lots w/flex floorplans. 680 to Sycamore Vly. Rd. E/r. onto Camino Tassajara/r. on Glasgow Dr./r. on Glasgow Cir./r. on Campbell Place. Pacific Union Homes. 925-743-0238

DUBLIN

8 Meriton at Emerald Park
From high \$300,000's. Final Release! Lux. mstr. plan, comm w/3 designs, to 2200 sq. ft., 6BR/3BA, lft. Hacienda off 580 nr BART. Open 10-5, Mon. 2-5. www.richmondamerican.com. 925-829-8029

9 Starward
From mid \$300,000's. New Release! 3-4BR, 2BA, 2 story, steel built. Garden setting/ views/hwy. access/shopping/schools. 580/exit San Ramon No./r. Amador Vly./r. Starward Dr. www.schulera.com or 925-875-1060

FAIRFIELD

10 Ridgeview at Paradise Valley
From mid \$200,000's. Grand Opening! Spacious, to 7BR, 1-80/r. N. Texas St./r. Dickson Hill/r. Dover/r. Manuel Campos/r. Paradise Vly. Dr. 10-5/Mon. 2-30-5. www.richmondamerican.com 707-438-7800

HERCULES

11 Belleterre
From mid \$300,000's. 4BR, 3BA, 2/3 car gar. Opt. 5th BR, den Steel-built/ structured cabling Bay views. EZ commutes. 180/San Pablo Ave./Hercules Ave./Titan Way. Open 10-5/Tues. 12-5. 510-741-9165/ www.schulera.com

LIVERMORE

12 Ridgecrest
From mid \$300,000's. Grand Closeout! Great loc., designs to 2273 sq. ft., 4 BR, 2.5 BA, nr. 580/ BART/ACE train. 580 to N. Livermore, left on Portola. Open 10-5. Mon 2-5. 925-371-6648 www.richmondamerican.com

13 Vintage Collection
From low \$600,000's. Scenic homes by Delco Bldrs, 1/3-1/2 ac w/ views of Livermore Vly/vineyards. Close to Ruby Hill Golf Course, top rated schools. Spacious floorplans, complete amenities. Open Thurs - Mon. 925-606-5505

PITTSBURG

14 Highlands Ranch
From low \$200,000's. Beautifully designed, 1134-3549 sq. ft., 3-5BR, 2.5 car gar. opt. incl. den, lft., media cabling system. Near shopping, schools & freeway access. Loc. off Buchanan Rd., bet. Lovendge & Somersville. (925) 439-9070 Seeno homes www.seenohomes.com.

15 Monterra II, Summit Collection
From mid \$200,000's. 4-6 BR w/options to 7. Three floorplans, 1815-4243 sq. ft., 3 car gar., great opts. inc. second mstr. BR, dens, mstr. retreats, Nr. Hwy's, walk to BART, Hwy 4 to Bailey Rd. so. ct. on Leland, left on Southwood. 925-709-1037. www.seenohomes.com

PLEASANT HILL

16 Grayson Woods
From \$521,590. Models For Sale! Up to \$10K allowances! Only 7 remain! Views/cul-de-sacs! 2135-2634 sq. ft., 3 car gar. 4 mi. to 3 hwy's/BART, Taylor Blvd./Grayson. Davidson Homes. 10-5/Mon. 1-5. 925-274-0800

17 Village Square
From \$300,000's to low \$400,000's. Single family homes by Delco Bldrs., 3-5BR, 2.5-3.5BA. Private entry, landscaped common area. Close to PH BART, 680 150 Hookston Dr. More info 925-952-4595.

VACAVILLE

18 Diamond Grove
From mid \$160,000's. Gated active adult comm. Contemporary 1 story homes. Beaut. pvt. rec. ctr./w/igme rms., swimming & more! Open 11-6/1-80 to Orange Dr., follow to Orange Tree Cir. 707-447-5800

19 Westgate Estates
From mid \$200,000's. Now previewing! Estates sized homes up to 4300 sq. ft. on 10,000 sq. ft. min. lots. 4-7 BR, 3 car gar. & opt. bonus spaces. 1-80 to Alamo east, rt. on Peabody, rt. on Foxboro. Seeno Homes 707-454-0100 www.seenohomes.com

WALNUT CREEK

20 Larkey Estates
From \$518,900. LCI Homes presents 13 luxury homes. Creek, estate lots, 4-6BR, 2458-2800 sq. ft. Larkey Ln./Geary Rd. 680/24/BART close. NRS Brokers. 925-935-9152. Open Wed. thru Fri. 1-5. Sat./Sun. 10-5

548 30th St - \$145,000

717 30th St - \$150,000

847 30th St - \$150,000

567 34th St - \$189,000

642 34th St - \$153,500

161 7th St - \$133,500

2603 Beach Head Ct #103 - \$265,000

5044 Buckboard Wy - \$200,000

2118 Carlson Bl - \$164,000

5571 Country View Dr - \$385,000

2919 Downer Av - \$164,000

3153 Fairmede Dr - \$165,500

1295 Frances Rd - \$138,000

418 Hopkins Ct - \$320,000

2175 La Mirada Dr - \$237,000

2865 Lincoln Av - \$160,000

1339 Mariposa St - \$225,000

2 Park Ln - \$122,000

See SALES, Page B13

CASTLE ROCK REALTY

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966 SAN PABLO AVE, ALBANY

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- Jerilynn's team can expertly handle every aspect of your sale or purchase

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Sales

FROM PAGE B12

16305 Maubert Av - \$450,000
15386 Mendocino St - \$263,000
15530 Oceanside Wy - \$378,500
14020 Outrigger Dr #13 - \$200,000
2331 Pacifica Ct - \$367,500
16592 Rolando Av - \$230,000
1724 Russ Av - \$225,000
1397 Vining Dr - \$200,000
14516 Wake Av - \$215,000
2621 West Av 134th - \$250,000
2026 Yankee Ct - \$370,000

SAN LORENZO

1302 Culver Pl - \$129,000
832 Grant Av - \$175,000
17376 Via Chiquita - \$212,000
17318 Via Susana - \$210,000
962 William Dr - \$322,500

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers by TitleTech, an Oakland real estate information company, which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office. Neither company guarantees the accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are based upon applicable county transfer taxes. Questions? Call 510-568-7233.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Real Estate Advertising Deadlines

-NO EXCEPTIONS-

Space Reservations:

MONDAY, 12 Noon

Copy Delivery:

TUESDAY, 3:00 pm



Publisher's Notice

Real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Reduce, reuse and recycle.
It's to your advantage.

Resources

FROM PAGE B5

bowling alley lanes. Douglas fir flooring.

■ **Caldwell Building Wreckers.** 195 Bayshore Blvd., San Francisco. 415-550-6777. Eastlake Victorian pocket doors, certified Italian beveled glass windows from the Winchester Mystery House, old-growth lumber, antique pedestal sinks.

■ **Crossroads Recycled Lumber.** P.O. Box 184, O'Neals, CA, 93645. 209-868-3646. Specializes in resawn timbers and remanufactured flooring. Recycled lumber from buildings, bridges and railroad lines.

■ **Ohmega Salvage.** 2407 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-7368.

Quality tables, bed frames, chairs, cabinets, nightstands, clawfoot bathtubs, lighting fixtures, architectural building materials including columns, moldings, and marble.

■ **Ohmega General Store.** 2400 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-204-0767. Sister store of Ohmega Salvage, this showroom features lighting fixtures on display. Chandeliers, wall sconces, multi-light fixtures, deco designs, even gas light fixtures transformed to run on electricity. All fixtures are re-wired.

■ **Ohmega Too.** 2204 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-3636. Yet another Ohmega location. Architectural embellishments for the older home. Antique lighting, plumbing, doors, windows, and garden ornaments.

■ **Gilman Salvage.** 808 Gilman St., Berkeley. 510-524-5500. A 9,000-

foot warehouse features finds such as birds-eye maple furniture pieces from England, cabinets, dressers, armoires, vanities, chairs, lighting fixtures and furniture from restaurants. The 7,000-foot outdoor yard has re-claimed building materials such as hand-glazed tile, statuary, marble, and lawn and garden items.

■ **Savvy Salvage.** 4385 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-655-8877. Lots of garden ornaments and architectural elements. Mushroom-shaped granite staddle stones from England, 9-foot tall Victorian pilasters, columns, metalwork, garden furniture, urns.

■ **This & That.** 1701 Rumrill Blvd., San Pablo. 510-232-1273. Approximately 40,000-square feet of recycled materials, including bi-fold and louver doors, wrought iron, fireplaces, door moldings, windows,

sinks, granite, marble, and brick building materials.

Natural products

■ **E-Spec.** 4723 Tidewater Ave., Suite 1, Oakland. 510-536-2600. Manufacturers representative for environmental architectural finish and landscape products.

■ **Non-Toxic Hot Line.** 3441 Golden Rain, #3, Walnut Creek. 925-472-8868. Web site is www.non-toxic.com. Low toxic sealants and insulation, air and water purifiers, mail order.

■ **Real Goods Trading Corp.** 1324 10th St., Berkeley. 510-558-0700. Solar-powered products, air and water filters, environmental home books, ecological bedding, lighting products, and more. Web site: www.realgoods.com.

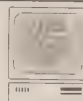
— Lynn Kruman Lindstrom

BAY AREA MORTGAGE RATES

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LENDER	30Yr CONVENTIONAL RATE+POINTS(APR)	30Yr JUMBO RATE+POINTS(APR)	7/1 ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	5/1 ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	3/1 ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	Additional Programs
A Simple Mortgage 925-930-0149	8.375+0(8.48) 7.875+1.5(8.06)	8.75+0(8.82) 8.125+1.5(8.35)	8.125+0(8.29) 7.625+1.5(7.88)	7.5+1.5(7.64)	7.25+1.5(7.42)	Company owner will personally come to you and make it simple and easy—you never fill out a form. Linked to 60+ top national lenders. Call Read Powell 7days/week.
A-Value Loan 1-888-523-9056	8+ .875(8.18) 7.875+1.375(8.10) 7.625+2(7.91)	8.25+1.25(8.40) 8.125+1.75(8.33) 8+2.375(8.25)	7.5+1(8.05) 7.25+2(8.03) 7.125+2.5(8.01)	7.25+1.25(8.09) 7.125+1.5(8.07) 7+2(8.06)	7.25+1.5(8.08) 7+1.5(8.12) 6.875+2(8.11)	Save thousands on real estate fees when buying or selling a home. Ask us about our 7.0% interest only loan, zero points.
Aston Financial Group 925-934-5323	7.75+2(8.10) 7.5+3.5(8.05)	8.25+0(8.33) 7.875+2.5(8.31)	7.375+2(7.60)	7.5+0(7.66)	NQ	Save thousands of dollars with our discounted real estate services. Call for details.
Downey Savings & Loan 800-780-6614	7.875+1.875(8.13)	8+2.375(8.44)	NA	7.25+2.375(8.46)	7+2(8.62)	Direct lender, 40 years experience. All types of borrowers. Fixed and ARM mortgages.
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626	8.25+0(8.38)	8.5+0(8.63)	7.875+0(8.00)	7.5+0(7.74)	7.375+0(7.62)	Credit problems, bankrupt, difficult loans our specialty. All government loans. 100% loans, credit lines, construction 20 years of service. Appointments anytime! 1-800-837-LOAN
Prism Mortgage Co. 800-788-6522 CA DRE 00930036	7.875+1.5(8.02) 7.75+2(7.94) 7.625+2.5(7.84)	8.125+1.5(8.28) 8+2(8.19) 7.875+2.5(8.09)	7.625+1(7.84) 7.5+1.5(7.69) 7.375+2(7.59)	7.5+1(7.64) 7.375+1.5(7.59) 7.25+2(7.49)	7.375+1(7.48) 7.25+1.5(7.36) 7+2(7.24)	Open Saturday and Sunday. Low-doc; quick qualify programs. Web: www.SteveCarlin.com Email: steve@stevecarlin.com

Information is current as of February 8, 2000. For information on specific mortgage programs, call the lender. Rates, points and programs are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed. Points include discount and origination fees. Most quotes are for 30-day lock-ins, unless otherwise stated. Rates quoted are based on loan amounts of \$125,000. Maximum conventional loan amount \$252,700, jumbo loans are in excess of \$252,700. Annual Percentage Rate (APR)—an interest rate reflecting the cost of a mortgage as a yearly rate. This rate is likely to be higher than the stated note rate or advertised rate on the mortgage, because it takes into account points and other credit costs. The APR allows homebuyers to compare different types of mortgages based on the annual cost for each loan. ARM—adjustable rate mortgage. LTV—loan to value. NA—not available. NQ—rate not quoted. Lenders, to be listed in this paid column, call 1-800-CNS-8525. To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator and for extensive mortgage, real estate, and consumer financial information, including tips and definitions of terms please visit our website at www.cnsweb.com. Copyright 2000 Consumer News Systems

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Grand Opening This Weekend!

You're invited to celebrate the Grand Opening of Westgate Estates in Vacaville. Seeno Homes is proud to present this new community of spacious homes up to 4,300 square feet on 10,000 square foot minimum lots. As a part of the master planned community of Westgate, these homes are perfect for families with parks and a neighborhood elementary school nearby. All of this, priced from the mid \$200,000's. We'll be celebrating with free refreshments, prizes and a live radio remote hosted by KUIC radio, so come out and enjoy the fun! For more information, call (707) 454-0700.

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Want To Miss
This Party!"**

MODELS
OPEN DAILY

1. **Monterra II Summit Collection**
Fitchburg
1,815 - 3,243 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(925) 709-1037
2. **Brighton at Westgate**
Vacaville
1,432 - 1,843 sq. ft.
From the upper \$190,000's
(707) 445-6243
3. **The Reserve**
Tracy
1,785 - 3,159 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(209) 839-9952
4. **Highlands Ranch**
Pittsburg
1,734 - 3,549 sq. ft.
From the low \$200,000's
(925) 439-9070
5. **Estates at Southbrook**
Fairfield
1,983 - 3,312 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(707) 864-0225
6. **Westgate Estates**
Vacaville
2,341-3,706 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(707) 454-0700

GRAND
OPENING

Victoria
Petaluma
1,776 - 2,562 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(707) 781-6822

Coming Soon - (888) 41-HOMES
Meadow Creek Village, Antioch
1,865-3,257 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's

Mira Vista, Antioch
1,983 - 3,312 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's

Wildrose, Fairfield
1,211 - 2,191 sq. ft.
From the low \$200,000's



YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE OPEN HOMES OPEN SUNDAY*

ALAMEDA

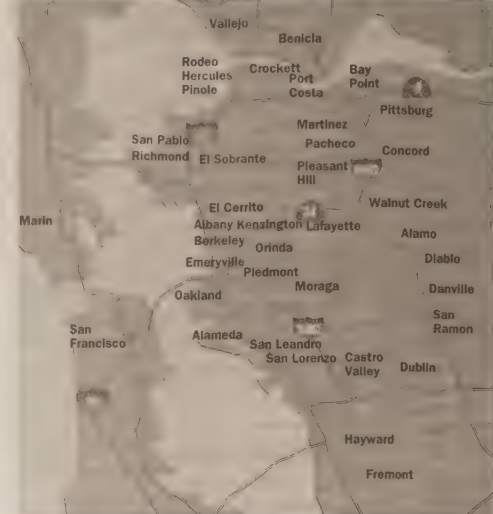
Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2835 Seaview Pkwy Ana M. Lee, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9600	584/4 - 1/2	1-4	\$1,190,000
346 Sweet Rd Hinge Ltd, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4848	484/2 - 1/2	2-4	\$689,000
1717 Cambridge Walt Jacobs, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4710	584/2 - 1/2	2-4	\$550,000
61 Basinside Den shows Sat. 2-4. 814-4854 Tim Marr, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4817	484/2 - 1/2	2-4	\$525,000
552 Amber Isle OPEN SAT. ONLY Darlene Gardner, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1104	484/384	3-5	\$479,000
3000 Washington St Bill Hensell, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1108	384/184	2-4	\$475,000
1926 Kofman Parkway Rich Lai, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1188	3 - 84/84	2-4	\$475,000
2132 San Antonio Elaine Miller, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4821	484/384	2-4	\$469,000
43 Captains Judy Jacobs shows Sat. 2-4. 814-4711 Cavale Hanna, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4814	384/2 - 1/2	2-4	\$469,000
1060 Gardenia Terrace Darlene Gardner, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1104	384/2 - 1/2	2-4	\$469,000
1138 Broadway OPEN SAT. ONLY - 3 UNITS Signe Nelson, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 521-0328	84/84	2-4	\$450,000
1335 Caroline St OPEN SATURDAY ONLY Ann Broad, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1807	4 - 84/284	2-4	\$395,000
1545 Santa Clara Bill Douglas 814-4839; Barbara Bolton 814-4714, Harbor Bay Realty	384/284	2-4	\$389,500
1545 Santa Clara Barbara & Bill, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4839	384/284	2-4	\$389,500
1330 High St Ann Broad, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1807	384/284	2-4	\$377,000
2701 Washington St Raye Thomas, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1102	3 - 84/84	2-4	\$375,500
1910 Kirbyhawk Dorlene Collins, Kane & Associates (510) 522-4011	384/284	2-4	\$370,000
1014 College OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY ONLY Connie Hanna, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4814	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$355,000
2904 Johnson Ave Stan Lockhart, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1805	384/284	2-4	\$350,000
2812 Marina Dr OPEN SAT & SUN Marjorie Oliver 855-9688; Kryslyn Nowak 483-1676 Kane & Associates	284/184	2-4	\$335,000
1114 Court St OPEN SAT & SUN Mark Wyman 522-5827 & Jerry Houshman 522-0968 Kane & Associates	284/84	2-4	\$329,000
3231 Sterling Ave Kathy Ghiselli, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 522-6425	384/184	2-4	\$310,000
3209 Washington St Moon Tam, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 747-1620	284/184	2-4	\$295,000
1610 Bay St Jean Powers, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4822	284/184	2-4	\$292,500
3411 Haight Srd Boring, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4816	384/184	2-4	\$289,000
1612 Gould Signe Nelson, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 521-0328	284/184	2-4	\$269,500
2101 Shoreline Dr #260 Fred Hales, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1138	284/1 - 1/2	2-4	\$245,000

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2101 Shoreline #260 Mark Playsted, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4874	284/1 - 1/2	2-4	\$229,000
339 Broadway #301 Carol Martinez, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 522-2876	284/184	2-4	\$190,000
960 Shorepoint #102 Elaine Bauka, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4835	284/284	2-4	\$190,000
1321 Webster D116 Gladys Farrell (510) 337-0697 Henriette Zein, Centennial (510) 865-6582	284/284	2-4	\$185,000
325 Kitty Hawk Rd. 284/1 - 1/2 Barbara K. Alameda Realty (510) 814-0808	284/1 - 1/2	2-4	\$170,000
325 Kitty Hawk Rd. Barbara Kolodziej, Alameda Realty (510) 814-0808	284/1 - 1/2	2-4	\$170,000
1915 Filmore Chris Eiders-Hardie, Berkeley Hills Realty (510) 524-9888 x22	384/2/584	2-4	\$399,000
549 Cornell Bill McDowell, Berkeley Hills Realty (510) 524-9888 x30	384/184	2-4	\$369,000
1031 Talbot Ave. Tracy Schickman, Berkeley Hills Realty (510) 524-9888 x27	2 - 84/184	2-4	\$282,000
1029 Amto Berkeley Hills Dee & Joe Kneeland, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	584/4 - 1/2	2-4	\$1,395,000
16 The Crescent Berkeley Hills Fay Hedges, No Mac EB Hills (510) 526-0900	384/284	2-4	\$955,000
2636 Linden Elwood Linda Azzari, Tompkins Company (510) 652-2133 ext 122	4 - 84/284	2-4	\$489,000
1634 Grant St Berkeley Dorlene Conroy, Coldwell Banker - Montclair (510) 339-4700	284/184	1-4	\$425,000
1047 Cragmont HILLSIDE HOME. Next to Cragmont Park. Marc, Red Oak Realty (510) 280-5103	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$399,000
539 Neilson St. A BLOCK FROM COLUSA CIRCLE SHOPS Ann Ardisa Plant 527-2700 x27, Marlene Gardens R.E.	284/284	2-4	\$359,000
2285 Cedar St. ELEGANT/SUNNY CRAFTSMAN CONDO Thermal Properties, (510) 848-1950 x245, Janice Maupin	184/184	2-4	\$259,000
2700 La Conte #304 OAKTOPS! ELEGANT CHIC CONDO Joan Brumack, Berkeley Hills Realty (510) 524-9888 x12	184/184	2-4	\$259,000
1636 Russell 2 - 84/84 Sedona Lagan, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	2 - 84/84	2-4	\$155,000
1636 Russell Henriette Green, Prudential CA Realty (510) 524-2070	2 - 84/84	2-4	\$155,000
2635 Yuba Carol Health-Kim, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	484/384	2-4	\$289,000
5511 Zana Carol Health-Kim, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	284/184	2-4	\$298,000
5511 Zana Ave. Carol Health-Kim, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 525-2346	284/184	2-4	\$298,000

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2635 Yuba Carol Health-Kim, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	484/384	2-4	\$289,000
5511 Zana Carol Health-Kim, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	284/184	2-4	\$298,000
5511 Zana Ave. Carol Health-Kim, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 525-2346	284/184	2-4	\$298,000



EMERYVILLE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
782 Pomona Lloyd Jung, Prudential CA Realty (510) 526-5143	284/84	2-4	\$257,000
1284 61st St. DUPLICATE, Sara, Red Oak Realty (510) 280-2105	2 units	2-4	\$289,000
115 Fawcett Sharon Brown, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$399,888
115 Fawcett Sharon Brown, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$399,888
115 Fawcett Sharon Brown, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$399,888

HERCULES

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
115 Fawcett Sharon Brown, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$399,888
115 Fawcett Sharon Brown, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$399,888
115 Fawcett Sharon Brown, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$399,888

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6042 Manchester Dr Upper Rockridge Anne Feste, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	484/384	2-4	\$1,999,000
6799 Chelton Montclair Kathy Flynn, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	484/3 - 1/2	2-4	\$769,000
5363 Costa Costa Rd Howard Converse, Prudential (510) 339-9230	584/3 - 1/2	2-4	\$889,500
755 Woodrow Dr Judy Cano, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400 ext 241	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$679,000
6272 Girvin Dr Carol Cohen, La Salle Properties (510) 339-8900	484/384	2-4	\$665,000
5511 La Salle Mindy Scott, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400 ext 241	384/284	2-4	\$999,000
2701 Mountingale Way Montclair Nahed Nassiri, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-5770	4 - 84/384	2-4	\$999,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
715 Arimo Ave Belle, Wilkins, Prudential CA Realty (510) 524-5255	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$575,000
5870 Colton Blvd INCLUDES 184/184 Au pair. Montclair Teri Carlisle, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	584/4 - 1/2	2-4	\$549,000
409 Hillier Dr Bonnie Hirsch, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	284/84	2-4	\$525,000
877 Creed Road James Garcia, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400 ext 241	384/284	2-4	\$489,000
35 Binnick Hill Elizabeth Dickson, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400 ext 241	284/284	2-4	\$469,000
1915 Hoover Homes-Link Team (510) 749-5300	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$489,500
6007 Majestic Ave Oakland Hills Patricia Bennett, Montclair Better Homes (510) 482-9000	284/184	2-4	\$479,000
155 Pine Hills Ricky Ng Karen Lem, Coldwell Banker - Montclair (510) 339-4700	384/2 - 1/2	2-4	\$469,000
68 Temple Pl Anjan Petti Tunney, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400 ext 241	384/84	2-4	\$469,000
1096 Trestle Glen Rd Ana & Pascal Forest, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	384/84	2-4	\$459,000
1096 Trestle Glen Rd Ana & Pascal Forest, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	384/84	2-4	\$459,000
2177 Arrowhead Dr Victor Herra, La Salle Properties (510) 832-4339	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$439,000

OAKLAND

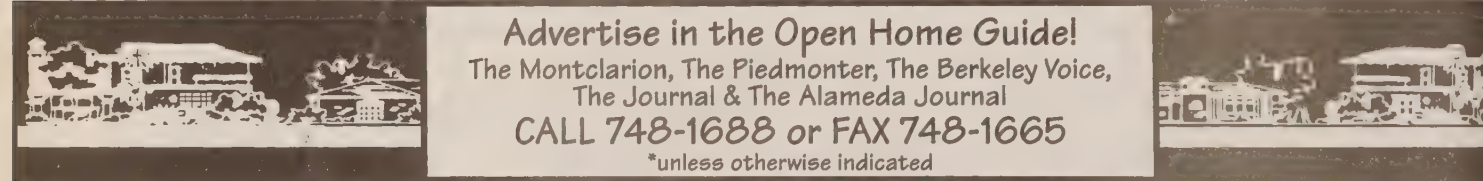
Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2177 Arrowhead Dr. Victor Herra, La Salle Properties (510) 832-4339	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$439,000
750 Trestle Glen Cocodr Highlands Becky Anderson, Coldwell Banker - Montclair (510) 339-4700	384/1 - 1/2	2-4	\$429,000
4805 Harbord Dr Linda McCain, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400 ext 241	284/284	2-4	\$419,000
582 61st St. ROCKIDGE-New Listing! 1916 2 story Farmhouse Kathie Berg 559-1444 CA, Marlene Gardens	384/184	2-4	\$410,000
15 Binnacle Hill Hiller Highlands Martha Sola, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-9888	284/284	2-4	\$389,000
8611 Arden Dr Piedmont Place Peter & Ellen Micopolopoulos, Wells & Bennett (510) 339-9780	384/284	2-4	\$389,000
4169 Park Blvd Lydia A. Hays, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	2 - 84/84	2-4	\$369,000
42 Sereno Circle Katherine Cooper, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400 ext 241	384/284	2-4	\$369,000
3815 Arden Arnold Mueller, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-9577	384/284	2-4	\$365,500
6414 Pinchaven Rd Hal Castle, La Salle Properties (510) 832-9778	284/284	2-4	\$325,000
6416 Pinchaven Rd Hal Castle, La Salle Properties (510) 832-9778	284/284	2-4	\$325,000
6999 Paso Robles Dr David Otero, Prudential CA Realty (510) 339-9230	384/284	2-4	\$319,000
9322 Granada Ave Oak Knoll Tom Anthony, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	284/1 - 1/2	2-4	\$298,000
2615 Morgan Ave Catie Rogers, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400 ext 241	284/184	2-4	\$283,000
5808 Ayala Rodriguez, Duplex, 1bd/1ba Don Cooley, Coldwell Banker - Montclair (510) 339-4700	284/184	2-4	\$250,000
3027 California St Lund Jeffrey Himes, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	284/184	2-4	\$250,000
257 Covington St Shelley Vilga Chandra Clayburgh, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-9595	384/184	2-4	\$250,000
8450 Astler Ave Henriette Green, Prudential CA Realty (510) 834-2019	284/84	2-4	\$230,000
8450 Astler Ave Henriette Green, Prudential CA Realty (510) 834-2019	284/84	2-4	\$230,000
5181 Trask St Janet Kaplan, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	2 - 84/84	2-4	\$209,000
5181 Trask St Janet Kaplan, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	2 - 84/84	2-4	\$209,000
7656 Sterling Dr William Paula Easton, Montclair Better Homes (510) 339-4000	384/184	1-4	\$195,500
6168 Mauritanian Ave Brian Santolun, Prudential (510) 339-9230	284/184	2-4	\$189,000
4136 Perminian Ct Kathleen Cranelli, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	1 - 84/84	2-4	\$183,500
4136 Perminian Ct Kathleen Cranelli, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	1 - 84/84	2-4	\$183,500

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
695 Waiopapa #202 NEAR ROSE GARDEN & PIEDMONT AVE. Marianne Eversen 559-2305, (510) 527-9111 Marlene Gardens	184/184	2-4	\$189,000
5930 Valley St Joan Cornwell, Prudential (510) 339-9230	184/184	2-4	\$149,000
4025 Huntington St Joe Ashton, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-9888	284/184	2-4	\$149,000
365 Perkins St #103 Adams Point Richard Hays, Wells & Bennett (510) 339-9780	184/184	2-4	\$149,000
151 Lakeside Dr #305 Studio, Lake Merritt Gene Boomer, Prudential (510) 339-9230	284/184	2-4	\$149,000
32 Perata St Jacqueline Wagner, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	84/84	2-4	\$149,000
149 St. James Dr President Terry Kufus/Ruth Lockhart, Coldwell Banker - Montclair (510) 339-4700	4 - 84/284	2-4	\$149,000
132 Cambridge Way Broomer Suzanne Yamamoto, Coldwell Banker - Montclair (510) 339-4700	384/284	2-4	\$149,000
2 Cavendish Lane Gene Boomer, Prudential CA Realty (510) 339-9230	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$149,000
2785 Rut Ct L. Bal, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	384/284	2-4	\$149,000
5612 Sutter RICHMOND AMHERST Gmt Jean Underwood 559-2911, (510) 527-9111 Marlene Gardens	284/184	2-4	\$149,000
661 29th St NORTH & EAST 74-level Madcap Mary Gray 559-2308, (510) 527-9111 Marlene Gardens	3 - 84/284	2-4	\$149,000
5411 Garvin Waucara Lowell, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	284/284	2-4	\$149,000
2354 Esmond Lloyd Jung, Prudential CA Realty (510) 524-5255	284/84	2-4	\$149,000
1822 Gaynor NORTH & EAST, NEW LISTING! Linda Mayeda, Red Oak Realty, 280-2146	284/1.5	2-4	\$149,000
384 So. 34th David Lastarica, Prudential CA Realty - El Cerrito (510) 527-9800	284/284	2-4	\$149,000
15789 Maubert Kimberly Orsaga, Prudential (510) 279-8811	384/1 - 1/2	2-4	\$149,000

SAN LEANDRO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
15789 Maubert Kimberly Orsaga, Prudential (510) 279-8811	384/1 - 1/2	2-4	\$149,000



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Offices & Stores for Rent

ROCKIDGE 620 & 2400 st. prime College Ave. 3000 sq ft. 16' ceilings, 2 baths. \$1500/mo. (925) 444-5441

San Ramon gift shop Old Crow (N. Valley) of est. \$1100/mo. \$195 a ft. (925) 283-8777

San Ramon shopping cart 1200 sq ft. busy loc. \$140 per ft. (925) 857-1100

WALNUT CREEK Lennon Ln. 2nd flr. inc. util. lot of parking 3200 sq ft. \$2500/mo. (925) 937-1606

WALNUT CREEK 1125 - st. off retail. Easy on/off Hwy 68. 1000 sq ft. (925) 937-3754

WALNUT CREEK Small office, 262 sq ft. parking included. (925) 256-1726

Industrial Commercial for Rent

ALAMEDA, WAREHOUSE shopwork space. Grand Main. 1000 sq ft. (925) 937-1606

ANTIOCH 920 S/Office/retail 1 yr. min. lease \$550/mo. (925) 937-1606

CONCORD prime area, 5K sq ft. for warehousing or mfg. (925) 937-1606

DUBLIN 1200sq ft. bldg. for restaurant on 100k lot. (925) 937-1606

LIVERMORE New Construction 5040 sq ft. warehouse with office & bonus mezzanine. (925) 937-1606

LIVERMORE 2500 sq ft. car wash, yard, shop. Owner 24 hrs. (925) 937-1606

PACHECO 6800 access, shop, small, off 250 sq ft. retail. (925) 937-1606

RICHMOND-SOUTH 1040 sq ft. 2nd flr. Mon-Fri 8-5. (925) 937-1606

VALLEJO/JOHNSON COMM'l office space for lease 1000 sq ft. (925) 937-1606

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VALLEJO/JOHNSON COMM'l office space for lease 1000 sq ft. (925) 937-1606

Share Rentals

OAKLEY-Nice 3 bdrm, hrm, 1000 sq ft. (925) 937-1606

OAKLEY nice 3 bdrm, W.D. full priv. \$425 incl. util. (925) 937-1606

OAKLEY non-smoking pref. no pets bottom half of house. (925) 937-1606

PINOLE 4400/5800 move-in no-smoking drugs. Pets. (925) 937-1606

PITTSBURGH lg w/priv. bat, 2nd flr. (925) 937-1606

PLEASANT HILL 3bd, nr. BART, non-smoking, no pets. (925) 937-1606

PLEASANT HILL full mstr. bdrm, 2nd flr. (925) 937-1606

PLEASANT CANYON Meadows, 2bd/2ba, W.D. female. (925) 937-1606

PLEASANT HILL full mstr. bdrm, 2nd flr. (925) 937-1606

PLEASANT HILL 3bd, nr. BART, non-smoking, no pets. (925) 937-1606

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PLEASANT HILL full mstr. bdrm, 2nd flr. (925) 937-1606

Alameda Apartments

1801/BA apt. in spl family. 600 sq ft. (925) 937-1606

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Concord Apartments

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FEATURED HOME OF THE WEEK

Inspired Maybeck feel comes to life in Oakland

This Bernard Maybeck-inspired new home replaces an original Maybeck masterpiece that once stood in its place at 6130 Ocean View Dr. (at Manchester) in Oakland. The floor plan is timeless — stylish family living, formal entertaining spaces and many modern conveniences.

"Each client fits into an era or in a mixture of eras... If the man is dressed in an era, he is happy. When you — his domain you know — his dreams" (Palette of Time and Place, Bernard Maybeck, 1930).

A combination of eras, the formal exterior closely resembles the pre-war home; the interior details mimic the large windows extending to the South Bay.

"A romantic, mature garden complements this home in the Maybeck tradition."

For more information on this home contact Diana Yankouski, Real Estate Broker at 510-486-1440 or DianaY3088@aol.com. Price upon request.



FOR MORE INFORMATION on this home at 6130 Ocean View Dr., Oakland, contact Diana Yankouski, real estate broker, at 510-486-1440 or DianaY3088@aol.com. Price available upon request.

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SPORTS

JV

Friday, February 11, 2000

Section C

Soccer El Cerrito feels the highs and lows of the playoffs[C2]

Arts Now featuring a movie guide and capsule reviews [C4]



Signing day brings relief for recruits

Grueling recruiting process closes for four as St. Mary's, El Cerrito send four to college

By Peter Mentor

Signing day is the end of a long and sometimes gut-wrenching ordeal for high school athletes and their parents.

Last Wednesday (Feb. 2) was national letter-of-intent day when all the verbal commitments — well, almost all of the top picks — are firmed up by a written contract for the student-athlete to attend that school for one year with a renewable option of more.

Most colleges offer athletes up to five years of scholarship money, depending upon redshirt status and graduation. There is, however, no guarantee of more than the year-long contract.

St. Mary's and El Cerrito high schools had a combined four football players making their commitments.

The Panthers had running back/defensive back Eddie Smith signing at the University of Oregon, while Connor Banks is headed to Arizona State.

El Cerrito is sending wide receiver Jason Washington to Fresno State, while Idaho State signed Gauchos cornerback David Rose.

This is a relief for the families, but it is not really the end of anything, of course. It's the beginning of a new life for these athletes, who are moving on in their academic, athletic and personal lives.

A matter of trust

For Eddie Smith, the recruiting process was incredibly tough. The 5-foot-10, 185-pound defensive back was coveted by almost every Pac-10 school, Nebraska and Fresno State as a cornerback or wide receiver.

He also played tailback for the Panthers and rushed for 1,092 yards in seven games before suffering a shoulder injury. That didn't stop everyone from getting him to sign on their dotted line.

Smith's parents Hazel and Charles

"The coach at Oregon was so sincere. He kept saying the same thing over and over. It was a matter of trust. That's what's scary, can you trust him?"

Hazel Smith

Smith both attended Oregon State in nearby Corvallis, Ore., but they didn't have the greatest experience at the school. Still, they wanted to leave the decision up to their son without influencing him because of their poor association with the state.

"It was all up to him," said Hazel Smith. "He has five years to spend and he needed to go wherever he'd feel happy."

Eddie Smith went on a number of recruiting trips and had coaches at his house wooing him. The final decision came down to the approach of the recruiting coaches. Oregon defensive coach Nick Aliotti came to see Smith six times and each time he was consistent in talking about the person and not just the player.

"He was more worried about Eddie Smith as a person, as an individual," Eddie Smith said. "Everyone else was worried about Eddie Smith as a football player. He talked about the facts of life and that's what college is all about — life."

Eddie Smith asked his parents what they thought, admitting he was not mature enough to make that kind of decision on his own. His mother wrote him a letter with the pros and cons of each school. She fashioned it by listening to her son and by observing him.

"For the first month he took his trips and I kept out of it," said Hazel Smith. "I wrote a four-page letter with the pros and cons on what I learned from him. I just listened to his comments; what he said after coming back from his trip, things he told his friends on the phone."

See RECRUITING, Page C2

Panthers reach boys soccer championship

St. Mary's plays at Richmond High in league finals today; Albany High bows out in playoff opener on Tuesday

By Mike McGreehan and Scott Strain

St. Mary's High School's boys soccer team pulled off arguably its biggest win of the season Wednesday afternoon when freshman Zach Huddleston scored off a corner kick from sophomore forward Stephen McGrew in injury time to give the Panthers a 1-0 win over host Piedmont in the second round of the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League playoffs.

The Panthers (10-3-3) advance to play defending champion Richmond for the league championship at Richmond High on Friday afternoon at 3:30. Richmond advanced by beating Alameda 6-1 on Wednesday.

Both teams in the ACCAL finals ad-

vance to the North Coast Section playoffs beginning next week, with the winner getting the higher seed.

St. Mary's had a scare in its match when junior Mark Pankow collided with Piedmont goalie Danny Penrod midway through the first half. Play stopped for 20 minutes as paramedics arrived on the scene. Pankow was believed to have suffered a broken femur. His injury turned out to be a deep bruise.

St. Mary's advanced to the second round after beating Kennedy 2-1 on Tuesday. Kennedy took an early lead on a free kick, but McGrew tied it on a free kick of his own at 35 minutes. Jack Beran won it on a penalty kick at 72.

Beran's attempted came on a penalty kick with about 10 minutes remaining in the second half with the score tied 1-1.

Beran shot to the left, but Kennedy goal keeper Oscar Rivera moved out and blocked the shot. It was a clear violation and Beran got another chance. He went the opposite direction, and made the shot. Pankow took the foul on the side.

"Oh yeah, it was a clear violation," Beran said. "That's why I missed it. It would have good if he (Rivera) hadn't have jumped. On the second shot, I knew I couldn't go to the same side again, so I went to the other side."

"I knew I had a good fake, but I didn't see it go in."

St. Mary's had defeated Kennedy 2-1 during the regular season and previously to that, had tied the Eagles a couple of years ago. That has been the extent of

See SOCCER, Page C2

Berkeley wrestling plays gracious host

Jackets vets impressive in tournaments, but teams lack depth for dual meets

By Mike McGreehan

Berkeley High School wrestling will hold its annual Bay Bridge By-Invitation-Only Tournament on Saturday.

This tournament brings teams to Berkeley from both sides of the Bay. Teams are invited to bring all their wrestlers regardless of experience.

No medals are awarded but everybody gets to wrestle and gains valuable experience on the mat.

Berkeley High wrestlers have impressed in tournaments, but lack of depth has been a problem in East Bay Athletic League dual meets. That pattern continued as the Yellowjackets lost 47-26 last Thursday.

Berkeley forfeited three weight classes and coach Brad Itokazu moved some of his eager junior varsity wrestlers up to fill some spots.

Berkeley's "veterans," though, gave fine performances.

Justin Cary pinned Foothill's Chad Foy in four minutes, 58 seconds in the 152-pound match.

Parker Robinson had a most notable match at 125 pounds. Despite illness, Robinson defeated Foothill's Joel Kretzinger 6-4 in overtime. At the end of the match, Robinson had to run off the mat to vomit.

Misha Balmer had a fine night at 130 pounds. Balmer moved quickly and flowed from one move to the next in a 7-2 win over the Falcons' Stephen Marcos.

The 140-pound match was business as usual for Berkeley's Marcus Glass, who defeated Gavin Fuchs 7-0.

At 112 pounds, Berkeley's Nico Cary defeated Ian Turner by technical fall at 3:41.

See WRESTLING, Page C2

Arts

McMillon's "Confessions" hits jackpot

Berkeley artist shares secrets in candid, one-woman show

By Wanda Sabir

"Human beings and aliens making love with energy, light and color?"

Kim McMillon's college professor gasped at the student assignment in front of him. "Can't you write a black play? You know, a musical. Or something about colored girls in search of a rainbow?" he suggested.

It was a pivotal episode in the life of the Berkeley artist, a budding writer, squashed. What a way to find out that writing plays about what interests her just isn't marketable—unless she had a recognizable name and an award-winning screenplay.

McMillon then took a job as a "pretend secretary" to six stock brokers, a job she would come to loathe. She served three years before getting fired. Or in other words, released from her personal purgatory.

Happier now, McMillon decided once again to pursue her dream—to write, produce, and stage the definitive work on reincarnation.

Which she did in 1986 at Nova Theatre in San Francisco, and in 1987 at Zellerbach Playhouse in Berkeley.

"Confessions of a Thespian" is McMillon's gift to us. It's her "Jack Kerouac On the Road," reinterpreted for stage, a how-to guide to writing

and producing and starring in your own productions on a beg, borrow, and steal budget.

"Confessions" is just the guide for those too scared to live—an extended episode of "This is Your Life." A decade in 90 minutes flat.

Polished into a glowing success, "Confessions" journeys through the major themes of 42-year-old playwright Kim McMillon's life—namely her fascination with all things transcendental, cosmic and female.

And given the high caliber of material and excellent stage direction of Margo Hall, the wrinkles—a few dropped lines—will iron themselves out as McMillon grows more confident in her role.

"Confessions of a Thespian" is daunting only in its title, especially for those who haven't a clue what it means. Thespis is the ancient Greek dramatist credited with inventing tragedy, and while McMillon's incredible story has its own tragic episodes, she doesn't elect to throw herself off the Golden Gate Bridge.

Instead, she laughs at the precariously staged moments in her life, and in turn so can we as we join the thespian on her quest for the answer to the question: What am I here for?

McMillon's alter ego is so full of pizzazz and zest, one wonders what kind of cereal she's eating in enduring life's uphill trek. Nothing, absolutely nothing, gets this thespian down—not gunshot wounds or boring secretarial temp jobs, even college professors who don't understand a black writer who isn't into tragic

See CONFESSIONS, Page C5



KIM McMILLON performs in her one-woman show, "Confessions of a Thespian."

HOT SHEET!

■ "World Minds Meeting: Cultural Explorations in the West" authors discuss cultural changes between the India and the West. Scheduled for Friday, March 3, at the Oakland Museum of California. The authors are Jeffrey P. Murnighan and G. S. Cost \$7 general, \$5 museum members. Call 888-OAK-MUSE.

■ UC-Berkeley's art museum will showcase British artist Peter Doig's first solo show in North America on Sunday, Feb. 13. His show will run through April 9. Curated by Phyllis Watts.

EVENTS



ACTRESS RUBY DEE performs "My One Good Nerve," a solo theatrical show. March 15 at Oakland Ensemble Theatre, 1400 Alice St., Oakland. Cost \$27.50, \$37.50 and \$47.50. Call 510-763-7774.

Gaia Bookstore
■ Michael Eric Dyson, Feb. 15, 12:30 p.m. The author discusses her book "Taking Charge When You're Not in Control."

■ David Chadwick, Feb. 15, 7 p.m. The author discusses her book "Crooked Cucumber."

■ Kelly Bulkeley, Feb. 19, 4 p.m. The author discusses the book "Transforming Dreams: Learning spiritual lessons from the dreams you never forget."

Free. 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-818-CAIN or 4172.

Marcus Book Store
■ Michael Eric Dyson, Feb. 14, 6:30 p.m. The author will discuss his book "I May Not Get There With You The True Martin Luther King, Jr."

■ Ron Delums, Feb. 15, 6:30 p.m. The author will discuss his book "Lying Down With Lions: A Public Life From the Streets of Oakland to the Halls of Power." Book purchase required for admission.

Free unless otherwise noted. 3900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. Call 510-652-2344.

Oakland Public Library
MOND BRANCH —

■ "Quoting Black Voices," Feb. 17, 10:30 a.m. Students will recite poetry or speeches that honor the African American experience.

3565 Fruitvale Ave. (510) 482-7844. Free. Oakland.

REI Berkeley — through Feb. 24. A series of lectures on hikes and outdoors experience.

■ "Where Spirits Soar: The Summit of K2," Feb. 17, 7 p.m. Greg Mortenson in a solo presentation of highlights of his 1996 K2 Ridge Expedition and his subsequent effort working with local communities to preserve the environment and build their future.

■ "Adventures in Africa," Feb. 18, 7 p.m. Join Jim Wilkins in a presentation of slides and stories of adventure, hiking, diving, and paragliding across South Africa and Mozambique.

Free unless otherwise noted. 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-841-4140.

NBA All-Star Jam Session — through Feb. 13. The ultimate interactive basketball experience where fans can slam dunk, lay up, and shoot from a trampoline play home basketball. Shoot baskets with a pro shot, record their own highlights. A by-play: make their own team, and test their trivia skills, and experience the latest in multimedia electronic basketball games. Also featured: a card and collectibles area, player and celebrity autograph sessions, and skills clinics with NBA and college coaches.

\$15 general, \$12 children and seniors.

See EVENTS, Page C5

'Scream' ends in whimper

By Karen Hershenson

You know how they always bring in Heather Locklear to revive a drooping TV show? Indie stalwart Parker Posey has the same function in "Scream 3," the latest and, they insist, final installment of the groundbreaking horror series.

This is rare mainstream billing for Posey, veteran of such quirky movies as "The House of Yes" and "Waiting for Guffman." She brings welcome new, shall we say, blood to the "Scream" machine, which is becoming as calcified as the horror flicks it mocks.

She joins regulars Neve Campbell as well as David and Courtney Cox Arquette, who met and married while doing these films. The director is, as always, Wes Craven, although original screenwriter Kevin Williamson has been replaced by San Francisco Ehren Kruger.

The original "Scream," released in 1996, brought new life to the horror genre with its flippant, self-mocking style and teen sweetheart cast.

REVIEW

■ WHAT: "Scream 3"

■ STARRING: Courtney Cox Arquette, David Arquette, Neve Campbell

■ RATING: R (violence, language)

■ RUNNING TIME: 1 hour, 56 minutes

■ WHERE: Area theaters

■ GRADE: B-

The characters quoted from classic slasher flicks and knew the rules of the game, such as when to open the door and who is always first to get axed.

It was smart and funny, and along with "Scream 2," made a box-office killing. Sadly, it also sparked a carnival of imitators, from "Idle Hands" to "Bride of Chucky," and what was once innovative had become — gasp! — formula.



NEVE CAMPBELL'S SIDNEY and David Arquette's Dewey watch the bodies pile up — again in "Scream 3."

A few years later, there are new kids on the block. "The Blair Witch Project" eked genuine terror from piles of rocks and dangling straw figures, and it's looking like "The Sixth

Sense" may be an Oscar contender. The challenge for "Scream 3" is to wrap up the loose ends of this tril-

See SCREAM, Page C5

Spenger's seafood quite a catch

By Nicholas Boer

Spenger's may be 100 years old, but the fish couldn't be fresher. The menu is extensive, and if the seafood doesn't reel you in, the atmosphere will.

It took 16 months and \$5 million to overhaul this Berkeley Fourth Street institution, and the investment shows. Spenger's merits a visit just to see its century's worth of collected memorabilia. To give you an idea, a fish taxidermist and gunsmith were part of the opening team.

Of the four dining areas, the main room is the best, especially if you get one of the spacious, semi-private booths. With the adjoining Diamond Bar — named after the 34-carat diamond ring on display — the noise level can rise, but on our visit it was lively without being distracting.

One wall is lined with model boats, and there's an amazing array of artifacts: the management could practically charge admission as a maritime museum. Not that the restaurant needs more income. Serving a thousand customers is a slow day, and the prices, while a good value, are above average.

Just one of the menu's six fish-laden categories would qualify Spenger's as a serious seafood restaurant. Even the seventh, with its few land-based items — chicken, pork chops and two steaks — offers each choice with sounds of shellfish on the side. And the kitchen doesn't stop there. Starters include chowders, hearty seafood salads and a full complement of hot and cold shellfish ap-

SPENGER'S

■ WHERE: 1919 Fourth St., Berkeley

■ HOURS: Open every day for lunch and dinner

■ FOOD: Seafood classics and specialties

■ AMBIENCE: Like a maritime museum, with attitude

■ PRICES: Lunch appetizers \$6-\$13; entrees \$10-\$17; dinner appetizers \$4.50-\$10.95; entrees \$8.95-\$19.65

■ CREDIT CARDS: All major cards

■ PARKING: Public lot across the street

■ CALL: 510-845-7771

■ FOOD: B+

■ AMBIENCE/SERVICE: A

petizers.

The presentations are straightforward here, which allows the kitchen to focus on the cooking. For instance, rather than frying the oysters (\$7.55) in a vat of bubbling oil, they are lightly coated and quickly pan-fried. The result is melt-in-your-mouth seafood with a skin-thin crust. The bed of shredded iceberg and ramekin of tartar sauce may look unimpressive — but who cares?

Even when no cooking is required, the kitchen comes through by putting quality where it counts. The shrimp

Louis salad, with its black olives, hard-boiled egg and rounds of cucumber, looked completely ordinary. But the large bay shrimp were outstanding: plump, pink and perfectly sweet.

There are few things as satisfying as a bowl of steamed shellfish on a winter evening, as Spenger's black mussels (\$8.85), infused with basil and tomato, proved. Small and sweet but piled high, the mussels come with lots of flavorful broth, wedges of chewy garlic bread and a side of creamy butter for dipping.

The entrees are a clever combination of traditional and fanciful recipes. Just deciding among the 30 kinds of fish isn't always enough. Salmon, for instance, is served faja-style (\$9.50), poached with hollandaise (\$17.90), grilled with chives and lemon (\$17.90), or roasted on a cedar plank with berry butter (\$17.80).

We chose the latter and, while the side dishes were mediocre, the salmon itself was crisp, hot and so naturally rich that the butter sauce was almost superfluous — however, the sauce's floral hint of berry proved a clever match to the cedar-kissed fish. Entrees typically come with mashed potatoes (ours were lumpy and dense) and veggies (we got underdone broccoli florets).

I was excited to see onaga (\$19.65) on the specialty menu, as it is truly the king of Hawaiian snappers. Served with a pile of dark, nutty rice and (underdone) green beans, the fish was seared in hot spices and served with a creamy red curry sauce. The onaga portion was small, and the

preparation perhaps too spicy for such a delicate catch, but it was utterly fresh and cooked to a fluffy fare-thee-well.

On a classic test, the kitchen aced the fish and failed the chips, with the coleslaw just getting a passing grade. Fried in a beer-batter shell, the fresh cod (\$9.70) arrived as moist and slippery as it was on the hook — quite a contrast to its plate-mate of leaden fries.

The tasty desserts were an unexpected surprise. They read like classics but arrive dressed to party. The key lime pie (\$5.25) is topped with glistening daggers of ripe mango, a towering banana cream pie (\$4.25) looks splashy with caramel sauce, and alongside the white chocolate creme brûlée (\$5.90) has a stencil design of an anchor, done in cocoa.

The wine list is on the back of the menu, which is printed daily both for lunch and dinner. It's a good selection, mostly Californian, with a mix of familiar and boutique wineries featured. There are several glasses available for under \$5, and only a few of the 70-odd bottles break the \$40 mark (although the Captain's List has the real treasures). The full bar, of course, allows the more spirited to indulge in whiskey and rum.

It took, perhaps, a few minutes too long before we were greeted by our server, but once we had ordered, the pace was swift. The seasoned crew is upbeat and seems to relish manning such a big, bold ship. So, while the kitchen should shore up its side dishes, the horizon looks bright and clear for Spenger's.



Ratings declare

102.1 No. 2

Bravo, KDFC. It's one of the most remarkable stories in local radio in a decade, and at this writing, anyway — several years after the fact, there hasn't been a word about it in daily newspapers. That's because even

when people spend more time in their cars and listen to more radio than ever before, most of the local stations don't consider radio important enough to cover. (It's so much more important for Phil Matier and his ilk to report daily on the latest fascinating kindergarten antics of KFO's back-pols.)

The fall Arbitron radio ratings have just come out, and classical KDFC-FM (102.1) has just tied for second in the "beauty contest" of listeners. Newstalk KGO's (810 AM) 22-year streak of Arbitron remains unbroken. This is the first time any broadcaster I've spoken to can remember any classical station placing this high in a Top 10 radio market. (We're the fourth-highest.)

KDFC hasn't finished higher than eighth before. Since KDFC's corporate sister station KGO, which is an AM and an FM station, tied for second, this technically means KDFC is now the top-

radio music station in the Bay Area. That's amazing. Urban/dance stations like KMET and "Wild 94.9" for years have owned the No. 1 classical rating. Classical has rap imagine. Kinda restores our faith in the human race, doesn't it? (But we've always known the Bay Area is special. That's why we choose to live here.)

But, of course, we've also seen letters in the Hills papers from disgruntled KDFC fans. They're unhappy at all about the station's sound, and they certainly can't be buoyed by KDFC's his ratings success. They're more upset that the station has sold out and doesn't play Bartok, Bruckner, Schoenberg, Prokofiev, Mahler, and other dissonant and modern composers in its new playlist.

I'm primarily concerned with the simple economic reality. If KDFC hadn't changed, the Bay Area probably wouldn't have a classical commercial station at all, leaving the grim lead of Detroit and Philadelphia. KKHJ died here years ago.

"We're ecstatic," said KDFC managing man and programmer Bill Ballew when I called to congratulate him on "Classical 102.1's" astounding rating. "I guess it kinda says the Examiner story guy in a new light, doesn't it?" Yes, it does, as referring to the Examiner's snotty, ill-informed back when KDFC decided to join the Metropolitan Opera's live broadcasts last fall (the Met would allow the show to be broadcast later broadcast.)

Why KDFC's high ratings? (By the way, the station also soared in a most-coveted demo group, listeners 25-54, in the new ratings.) There are two major reasons:

One is the station's trimmed-down playlist, now 2,000 titles, formerly 20,000. That's still roughly the same as the songs played on any of the major music station here.

Second, credit KDFC's first-ever radio truly dislike those ads. I truly dislike a white-suited man who looks like a cross between a Mary Kay sales rep and a funeral-home director talking about "soothing" music. But people love to sample KDFC to see the difference. (And many of them stay tuned in.)

Critics snipe that KDFC's commercials are many of them annoying. I agree, but as KDFC general manager Valerie Howard told me, "Bonanza Broadcasting didn't pay \$50 million for this station and not expect to make a profit." She added, "We're in the radio business. We want to make a profit."

The critics, many of whom are lame, says, "musical snobs," like to point at a NPR station up in Sacramento as their ideal. But KDFC is a public station, it is a commercial one. We are clear on that. And if listeners apparently don't like the new sound, I can listen to Mozart, Beethoven, Bach, Handel, and other

See MANN, Page C5

FRIDAY MOVIE GUIDE

Titles and showtimes subject to change.
Call theaters for information.

Compiled by: CinemaSource
★ Wheelchair Accessible
Showtimes for Friday, February 11

Alameda County

Act 1 & II

Center St. off Shattuck, Berkeley 843-FILM
 ■ The Cup (G) 7:00, 9:15
 ■ The Emperor and the Assassin (R) 5:00, 8:15
 ■ Topsy-Turvy (R) 5:00, 8:15

Albany Twin

Solano at San Pablo Ave. Albany 843-FILM
 ■ All About My Mother (R) 7:00, 9:15
 ■ Topsy-Turvy (R) 5:00, 8:15

California Theatres

On Kittredge at Shattuck, Berkeley 843-FILM
 ■ Boys Don't Cry (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
 ■ Castle Will Rock (R) 1:00, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30
 ■ The Talented Mr. Ripley (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

Century 25 Union City Union Landing

32100 Union Landing Road, Union City 487-9593
 ■ Angela's Ashes (R) 12:35, 3:35, 6:45, 10:20
 ■ Anna and the King (PG-13) 11:50 a.m., 3:10
 ■ Any Given Sunday (R) 1:40, 7:15
 ■ The Beach (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:00, 2:00, 3:50, 4:50, 6:40, 7:45, 9:30, 10:35
 ■ Bicentennial Man (PG) 12:20, 3:15, 6:45, 9:45
 ■ The Cider House Rules (PG-13) 12:35, 3:25, 6:50, 9:45

Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo

■ Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo (R) 6:45, 9:00
 ■ Down to You (PG-13) 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:55, 10:10

The End of the Affair

■ The End of the Affair (R) 9:25
 ■ Eye of the Beholder (R) 11:35 a.m., 2:20, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10

Galaxy Quest

■ Galaxy Quest (PG) 11:25 a.m., 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:35

Girl, Interrupted

■ Girl, Interrupted (R) 12:55 a.m., 3:40, 7:05, 10:00

The Green Mile

■ The Green Mile (R) noon, 4:05, 8:15

The Hurricane

■ The Hurricane (R) 12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 10:40

Man on the Moon

■ Man on the Moon (R) 11:15 a.m., 4:45, 10:45

Next Friday

■ Next Friday (R) 11:55 a.m., 2:55, 4:45, 7:25, 9:55, 10:10

Santitas

■ Santitas (R) 7:40, 10:20, Spanish with English subtitles

Screen 3

■ Screen 3 (R) 11:15 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 12:15, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 7:30, 8:00, 9:05, 10:15, 10:45

Snow Day

■ Snow Day (PG) 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 1:50, 2:55, 4:15, 5:20, 6:30, 7:50, 8:55, 10:05

Stuart Little

■ Stuart Little (PG) 11:40 a.m., 2:15, 4:35, 7:15

The Talented Mr. Ripley

■ The Talented Mr. Ripley (R) 12:50, 3:55, 7:20, 10:30

The Tigger Movie

■ The Tigger Movie (G) 11:20 a.m., 12:05, 1:25, 2:15, 3:30, 4:55, 5:35, 6:25, 7:40, 8:35, 9:50

Toy Story 2

■ Toy Story 2 (G) 12:10, 2:35, 5:05

The World Is Not Enough

■ The World Is Not Enough (PG-13) 1:05, 4:00, 6:55, 9:55

Century Oakland 8

1880 at 8201 Oakland, Oakland 562-9990
 ■ The Beach (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45
 ■ Galaxy Quest (PG) 12:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:30, 10:00
 ■ The Hurricane (R) 12:30, 3:30, 7:05, 10:05
 ■ Next Friday (R) 11:50 a.m., 1:55, 4:10, 7:00, 9:10, 9:55

Screen 3

■ Screen 3 (R) 11:35 a.m., 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50

Snow Day

■ Snow Day (PG) 11:40 a.m., 1:40, 3:40, 4:55, 7:45, 9:40

Stuart Little

■ Stuart Little (PG) 11:45 a.m., 1:45, 3:45, 5:40, 7:35, 9:35

Toy Story 2

■ Toy Story 2 (G) noon, 2:20, 5:00, 7:25

Chabot Cinema

2853 Castro Valley Blvd. Castro Valley 562-2555
 ■ Screen 3 (R) noon, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Elmwood

2566 College Avenue, Berkeley 649-0530
 ■ Dogma (R) 9:15
 ■ The Insider (R) 8:35
 ■ The Limey (R) 5:10, 9:20

The Sixth Sense

■ The Sixth Sense (PG-13) 7:10

The Street Story

■ The Street Story (G) 7:00

Sweet and Lowdown

■ Sweet and Lowdown (PG-13) 4:45, 6:40

Tumbleweeds

■ Tumbleweeds (PG-13) 4:50

Fine Arts Cinema - Berkeley

2451 Shattuck Avenue Berkeley 848-1143
 ■ Program A (NR) 7:30
 ■ The Suffy Spark: An Erotic Cinema Valentine (NR)

Grand Lake Theater

3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 452-3556
 ■ The Beach (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
 ■ The Hurricane (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15
 ■ Magnolia (R) noon, 3:45, 7:30
 ■ Screen 3 (R) 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

Jack London Cinema

100 Washington St. Oakland 433-1320
 ■ The Beach (R) 11:00 a.m., 12:45, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 9:45, 10:30
 ■ Eye of the Beholder (R) 12:05, 2:45, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20

Galaxy Quest

■ Galaxy Quest (PG) noon, 2:25, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05

The Hurricane

■ The Hurricane (R) 12:25, 3:55, 7:05, 10:10

Next Friday

■ Next Friday (R) 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 8:00, 10:40

Screen 3

■ Screen 3 (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:15, 5:00, 7:50, 10:45

Snow Day

■ Snow Day (PG) 11:45 a.m., 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30

The Tigger Movie

■ The Tigger Movie (G) 11:00 a.m., 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:45

Topsy-Turvy

■ Topsy-Turvy (R) 3:15, 7:00, 10:35

Mann Festival 9

19901 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 785-8000
 ■ Angela's Ashes (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
 ■ The Beach (R) noon, 12:30, 3:00, 3:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:15

Down to You

■ Down to You (PG-13) 9:45

Galaxy Quest

■ Galaxy Quest (PG) 12:20, 3:20, 5:40, 7:55, 10:15

The Green Mile

■ The Green Mile (R) 8:00

Isn't She Great

■ Isn't She Great (R) 9:25

Next Friday

■ Next Friday (R) 12:35, 2:55, 5:05, 7:25, 10:05

Snow Day

■ Snow Day (PG) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:35, 9:55

Stuart Little

■ Stuart Little (PG) 12:45, 3:15, 5:35, 4:40

The Tigger Movie

■ The Tigger Movie (G) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15

Toy Story 2

■ Toy Story 2 (G) 12:15, 2:30, 5:00

Oak Theater

1875 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 525-1836
 ■ The Green Mile (R) 8:20
 ■ Magnolia (R) 7:30
 ■ Snow Falling on Cedars (PG-13) 6:00
 ■ Toy Story 2 (G) 5:30

Piedmont Theatre

Piedmont at 41st Oakland 843-FILM
 ■ All About My Mother (R) 12:45, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

The Cider House Rules

■ The Cider House Rules (PG-13) 1:00, 3:50, 6:45, 9:40

Holy Smoke

■ Holy Smoke (R) 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45

Shattuck Cinemas

Off Shattuck at Kittredge, Berkeley 843-FILM
 ■ Angela's Ashes (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:10
 ■ Being John Malkovich (R) 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00

The Cider House Rules

■ The Cider House Rules (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:45

The End of the Affair

■ The End of the Affair (R) 9:00

Girl, Interrupted

■ Girl, Interrupted (R) 1:15, 4:05, 7:15, 9:50

Holy Smoke

■ Holy Smoke (R) 1:30, 4:00, 7:05, 9:40

The Hurricane

■ The Hurricane (R) 1:40, 4:45, 8:00

Manfield Park

■ Manfield Park (PG-13) 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20

A Map of the World

■ A Map of the World (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50

The Third Miracle

■ The Third Miracle (R) 1:35, 4:15, 6:55, 9:40

The Tigger Movie

■ The Tigger Movie (G) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00

UA Berkeley 7

2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 843-1487
 ■ The Beach (R) 11:50 a.m., 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:50
 ■ Eye of the Beholder (R) 12:15, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10

Galaxy Quest

■ Galaxy Quest (PG) noon, 2:20, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40

Screen 3

■ Screen 3 (R) 11:50 a.m., 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00

Simpatico

■ Simpatico (R) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50

Snow Day

■ Snow Day (PG) 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30

UA Emerybay 10

6930 Christie Ave., Emeryville 420-0107
 ■ The Beach (R) 11:00 a.m., 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40

Eye of the Beholder

■ Eye of the Beholder (R) 11:50 a.m., 2:30, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30

Galaxy Quest

■ Galaxy Quest (PG) 11:40 a.m., 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00

Girl, Interrupted

■ Girl, Interrupted (R) 9:30

The Hurricane

■ The Hurricane (R) noon, 3:20, 6:50, 10:10

Next Friday

■ Next Friday (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45

Screen 3

■ Screen 3 (R) 11:10 a.m., 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00

Snow Day

■ Snow Day (PG) 11:00 a.m., 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15

The Talented Mr. Ripley

■ The Talented Mr. Ripley (R) 12:30, 4:10, 7:15, 10:20

The Tigger Movie

■ The Tigger Movie (G) 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30

UA Hayward 6

24800 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 786-3000
 ■ The Cider House Rules (PG-13) noon, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15

Eye of the Beholder

■ Eye of the Beholder (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 7:30, 10:35

Girl, Interrupted

■ Girl, Interrupted (R) 11:45 a.m., 5:15, 10:45

The Hurricane

■ The Hurricane (R) 12:30, 3:45, 7:15, 10:30

Screen 3

■ Screen 3 (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:05, 10:00, 11:00

Simpatico

■ Simpatico (R) 2:30, 8:00

UC Theatre

University Avenue between Milva Street and Shattuck
 Avenue Berkeley 843-FILM

Lair of the White Worm

■ Lair of the White Worm (R) 7:30, 11:30

Tommy

■ Tommy (NR) 5:20, 9:20

Central Contra Costa

Festival Walnut Creek
 1450 N. California Blvd., Walnut Creek 934-8649

The Beach

■ The Beach (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15

The End of the Affair

■ The End of the Affair (R) 9:30

Galaxy Quest

■ Galaxy Quest (PG) 11:40 a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40

Screen 3

■ Screen 3 (R) 11:50 a.m., 2:20, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10

Stuart Little

■ Stuart Little (PG) 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:50, 7:00

The Talented Mr. Ripley

■ The Talented Mr. Ripley (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

Orinda Theater

4 Orinda Theater Square, Orinda 254-9060
 ■ The Cider House Rules (PG-13) 7:00, 9:45

The End of the Affair

■ The End of the Affair (R) 1:15, 9:30

Galaxy Quest

■ Galaxy Quest (PG) 6:45, 9:00

Park Theater

3519 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette 283-7997
 ■ Topsy-Turvy (R) 4:00, 7:30

Rheem All-Studio 4

350 Park Street, Menlo Park 928-3411
 ■ Angela's Ashes (R) 12:00, 4:00, 6:45, 9:25

The Beach

■ The Beach (R) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

Magnolia

■ Magnolia (R) 4:15, 8:00

Screen 3

■ Screen 3 (R) 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

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"Angela's Ashes" (R)	■	★	■	■	■	★	▼
"End of the Affair" (R)	▼	★	★	★	▼	■	■
"Eye of the Beholder" (R)		▼	▼	●	▼	●	●
"Girl, Interrupted" (R)	■	★	▼	■	▼	■	▼
"The Hurricane" (R)	■	★	■	■	★	★	■
"Isn't She Great" (R)		▼	▼	●	▼	●	▼
"Magnolia" (R)	★	★	■	■	▼	★	■
"Play It to the Bone" (R)		▼	●	■	●	●	▼
"Scream 3" (R)	▼		■	▼			
"Talented Mr. Ripley" (R)	★	★	■	★	■	★	★

★ Brilliant
 ■ Good
 ▼ Weak
 ● Bomb

STUART LITTLE? A family adopts a mouse as its son in a family story adapted on the E.B. White children's classic. In the book, the little mouse expands in our imagination to occupy the same psychic space as the human characters. Movies are an ungrudgingly literal medium, however, and *Stuart Little*'s never quite works because it seems so odd, and pathetic, and, well, so small. — R. EBERT. (PG: brief language) 1 hour, 32 minutes. C

SWEET AND LOWDOWN? Sean Penn is the best thing in this confounding Woody Allen movie about a consummate loser who ascends to another plane when he's playing jazz guitar. It's set in the swinging

TOY STORY 2: Buzz and Woody (voiced by Tim Allen and Tom Hanks) are back in this sequel to the computer-animated blockbuster by the geniuses at Point Richmond-based Pixar. It's every bit as witty, funny and flat-out entertaining as the original, with a new female character — a high-spirited cowgirl (Joan Cusack) — and even Barbie. Woody learns he's a valuable collectible when he's stolen by an evil toy-store owner. — K. Hershenson (G) 1 hour, 25 minutes.

THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH: True, the Bond series thrives on formula, but this 9th installment is just too too. If the explosions get any bigger, or the chases any more choreographed, they're going to have to switch to an IMAX format to contain it. Pierce Brosnan has proven himself worthy, but Denise Richards ("Wild Things") makes a dreadful Bond girl. So the Marceau is far superior, as an oil heiress trying to build a pipeline. With Mike Myers making a mint mocking it, you wonder how much longer this golden goose can keep laying. —K. Hershenson (PG-13: Intense action-violence sequences, sexuality and innuendo.) 2 hours, 8 minutes. **B-**

She tells all as candles on the altar flicker, lights change color, and sound track fills the void with the tragic details of true thespian life. From that and the juicy background tidbits like mom and dad's eccentric habits, along with local artist gossip, a tale emerges that many of us can relate to, even those who enjoy swim-

Her writing is so lyrical, one almost catches her breath so as not to miss one single word. The closing prayer "Hello God," sung by Pam V.S. Dawson (who also composed the

As I was leaving the auditorium, I saw McMillon's big brother walking up the aisle, tears in his eyes. "Confessions" had hit the spot.

Kim McMillon's "Confession's of a Thespian" continues Friday, Feb. 11, and Saturday, Feb. 12, at the Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Tickets are \$12 advance, \$15 at the door. Call 510-525-3948 for information.

And will 10 p.m. co-anchor Leslie Griffith be on at 6 p.m.? Richmond repeats nonchalantly, "I really

That makes for plenty of plot zigzags and red (very red) herrings this time out. The distributor is Miramax's Dimension Films, which has scrambled to manufacture mystique by imploring critics not to reveal key plot points. Internet reviewers were banned from a San Francisco screening earlier this week, probably because of their tendency to spill.

niors; free children age 2 and under. Monday and Tuesday, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Wednesday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Oakland Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland. (888) GSW.

Around the Dial: If you recognized the name Alan Ray on KGO Radio's newscast recently, you should: Ray was an anchor at rival CBS Radio until 1985, when he

Finally today, some winners of the Washington Post's latest "merge-matic" book titles, with plurbs:—"Rikki-Kon-Tiki-Tavi": "Thor Heyerdahl recounts his attempt to prove Rudyard Kipling's theory that the mongoose first came to India on a raft from Polynesia."—"Jane Eyre Jordan": "Plucky English orphan girl survives hardships to lead the Chicago Bulls to the NBA championship."

Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill
at Newsmann@aol.com.

Purse is an actress portraying Cox's pushy TV reporter character, Gale Weathers, in a movie called *Stab 3*." She's taken the role to heart, "from the obnoxious obsession with getting a story down to the streaks in her hair. The best scenes pair these two "Scream" queens, each trying to outdo the other. Joan Crawford would be proud.

There are several celebrity cameos, lots of cell-phone riffs and more in-jokes than I could absorb. There are clever moments, even some mildly scary ones, but the movie doesn't match the exuberance of the first two.

What we are witnessing here is a rather perfunctory conclusion to what was once an inspired burst of creativity. In Hollywood, as in life, all good things must come to an end.

HOOPS or (510) 762-BASS.

p.m.: Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. \$9. (800) 247-GGGS.

The Golden Gate Geographic Society 2000 Travel Film Mini-Series — "Greece and Its Islands!" A film focusing on Athens, Delphi, the Peloponnese, Meteora, Mt. Olympus and Macedonia, and the islands of Paros, Rhodes, Crete, and Santorini. Produced and presented in person by Grant Foster. Feb. 12, 2001.

John F. Kennedy University Arts Annex—Nance O'Banion, Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m. A presentation as part of the Transformative Arts Dialogue Nights series. Free. Berkeley Business Center, 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. (510) 649-0499.



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105,000 • 135,000 • 165,000
Mileage Service Interval
Some models higher

\$169⁹⁵*
PLUS TAX

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TOYOTA QUALITY

Major Service Schedule

30,000 • 60,000 • 90,000
120,000 • 150,000
Mileage Service Interval
Some models higher
Platinum plugs higher

\$339⁹⁵*
PLUS TAX

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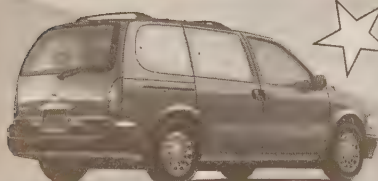
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6 Cyl. \$59⁹⁵

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- Inspect brake pads/shoes
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- Inspect tires for irregular wear or damage
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- Inspect all lights
- Inspect for uneven tire wear
- Adjust tire air pressure

See your Service Advisor for details.

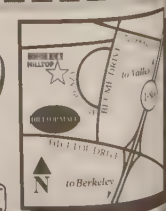
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Calendar

Contributors to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Classes

The Berkeley East Bay Humane Society, 2700 Ninth St., begins its six week DWA: Dogs With an Attitude program on Feb. 18. DWA is a training class for dog-aggressive dogs and their people. To qualify for the class, each dog must attend a one-on-one evaluation with the Society's behavioral counselor. Cost of the evaluation \$40. The class is priced at \$95. Call the Society at 845-7735, ext. 22, to discuss your dog's problem.

Maumusk presents "Imagination, Intuition and Intention," a workshop for groups, on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop is conducted by mezzo soprano Karen Clark. Singers of all levels and all styles are invited to attend. Place: St. Alban's Parish Hall, 1501 Washington St., Albany, Fee: \$80. To register or receive more information, call 594-0408.

A series of introductory classes sponsored by Vista Community College, 2020 Main St., continues on Feb. 11 with "Introduction to Research on the Internet," presented by Janice Carter, Golden Gate University's information services librarian. "Using Internet Search Engines," takes place March 3 and 10, presented by Joe Barter, librarian at the UC-Berkeley Learning Library, and "Internet Resources for Consumer Health Information," follows on March 17 and 24, presented by Debbie Jan, assistant director of UC-Berkeley's Public Health Library. Each workshop is conducted in two parts and costs \$5.50 for residents.

The Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., presents an introductory class for home fruit grower. Proper pruning increases the flavor and size of fruit, as well as preserves the health and longevity of the tree. There will also be a demonstration of various pruning tools. The class is taught by Greg Beck, owner of organic landscape and garden design business in the East Bay. Cost: \$30 for non-members, \$7.50 for members. Call 548-2220 to reserve a space.

The Lehrs Haus, judoka at the Reutlinger Center, 2736 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, offers more than 100 classes on Judaism: Hebrew, Bible History, Culture, Prayer, singing in February through out the Bay Area. Call Lehrs Haus judoka at 845-6420 for a free catalog.

The van der Zanden Studio, 1025 Carlton, No. 9, offers sculpture classes. All levels. Call 843-9445 for additional information.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, presents Scribble Time on Tuesdays, by appointment. Scribble Time, a class taught by Anne Levine, Ph.D., has helped people to understand themselves better and to find their focus. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

UCopWatch class takes place every Monday night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 222 Blake St. near Shattuck. Know your rights. The classes are free. Call 548-0635 for additional information.

Berkeley Community Media (BCM), 2222 Center St., offers affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BCM to the public are held on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 2239 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. For more information call 848-2288 and ask for Patrick John or Sage.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the resources available to the public including a variety of workshops held Tuesdays, at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 848-6370.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., offers many dance classes ranging from Afro-Cuban to Kathakali Dances of India, to West Coast Swing to Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing. The Ashkenaz is a non-profit music and dance community center. Call 525-5054 for additional information.

Art Stories (Collage and Ceramics) classes forming at St. John's Senior Center, 2227 College Ave., Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Sponsored by Berkeley Adult School. Teachers are Diana Bohn and Judith Carroll. Call 845-6830 for additional information.

Contemporary Women's Issues class forming at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St. Free class of first by the Berkeley Adult School, taught by Judith Carroll, M.F.C.C. Friday mornings 10 a.m. to noon. Open to all women 55 or older. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

Dance and Fitness Classes open to all. Salsa, Afro-Brazilian, bellydance, jazz, yong, ballroom, tap, theatre, yoga, qigong, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-10. Information: 848-6370.

Let's Swing and Jitterbug, 7 p.m., beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Dianna Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

Children
San Buddy Club, presents its own singing with Bay Area legend Gary Lapow on Sunday Feb. 20, 11 a.m. to noon at the Albany Community Center Theater, 2600 Marion Ave. The shows are targeted for children 2 through 12 and their parents and include audience participation. Tickets: \$7 per person, under 2 free. For more information call The Buddy Club at 592-SHOW.

Honoring for Leonard Pettit, in the spirit of Crazy Horse, a benefit for the honored Native American author and artist on Sunday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m. at King Middle School, 1781 Rose St. Participants include Peter Coyote, actor and writer and activist, Winona LaDuke, Native American writer and activist among others. Tickets: \$10 advance, \$12 at the door.

door. Call 848-6767 for additional information.

The Ann Martin Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

The Y2K session of "Baby Bounce and Toddler Tales," a free story-time program for families with children up to age 3 is every Wednesday at 7 p.m. through April 12 at the West Branch Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave., near San Pablo. Babies and toddlers have a place in the library where they can make noise.

Kids and their adult companions can explore the University of California Botanical Garden with Docent Lois Paul the last Sunday of every month at 1 p.m. You will visit a section of the Garden that represents a different continent or foreign country, find out what's special about the plants that grow there, and then draw what you see. Call 643-2755 to reserve your space.

"Theater Rats," Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

The Buddy Club features comic Ace Miles performing magic, judging, and ventriloquism on Sunday, Feb. 13, noon to 1 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. Tickets: \$7 per person, under two free. All Buddy Club performances are targeted for children ages 2 through 12 and their parents, and they include audience participation. Birthday party packages are available at every show. Limited unserved tickets will be sold at the door. For additional information call 652-7469.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neurological disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education, drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Community

The Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley, presents its Second Annual Richard Nagler Photography Competition. The 2000 competition welcomes all entries representing a series with a Jewish theme. No category restrictions; black and white or color okay. Awards: cash, museum and web exhibitions. Entry deadline is March 1. Discounted fee for early entries. For detailed entry instructions email jewphoto@aol.com.

The Elders Network at the Over-60-

Health Center hosts its Fourth Annual Crab Feed Fund-raiser, Saturday, Feb. 19, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave. at Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Tickets: \$25 includes complete dinner, one complimentary drink, and homemade cookies. Meet new people, enjoy good entertainment, and a raffle. For tickets or volunteer opportunities, call Elders Network at 597-8010 ext. 402.

"Meet the Candidates Night," is sponsored by the Progressive Alliance of Alameda County, on Thursday, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m. at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck. Admission: \$5-\$10. For additional information, call 849-2568.

The Berkeley Chamber of Commerce, sponsors its Monthly Mixer, on Thursday, Feb. 24, 5:30-7 p.m. at Club Room, Hass Pavilion, corner of Bancroft and Dana. Stay for the game: Cal vs. Washington at 7:30 p.m. For additional information, call 642-2444 for additional information.

The Berkeley Chamber of Commerce hosts a "Leap-Year Luncheon," with David Goines, on Tuesday, Feb. 29, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at H's Lordships, 199 Seawall Dr. Cost: \$25 members, \$30 non-members. Call the Chamber at 549-7003 for additional information.

Lawrence Hall of Science, (LHS), continues its Black History Month celebration with storyteller Claressa Morrow on Saturday, Feb. 12, 12:30 p.m.; "Family Affair African Music and Storytelling," on Saturday, Feb. 19, "Science Spectacular," on Sunday, Feb. 20, noon-2 p.m.; "Women

of Color in Medicine," Saturday, Feb. 26, noon to 2 p.m.; and "Grandma's Kitchen," stories by Keller on Sunday Feb. 28, 12:30 p.m. The LHS is located on the UC-Berkeley campus, on Centennial Drive. For information, call 642-5132 or visit the web site at www.lhs.berkeley.edu.

The Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers a "Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons or by appointment. Anne Levine, Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. Price: \$15 for YWCA members, \$20 for non-members. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

Marlon Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-6606.

The North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst, offers Income Tax Help beginning Feb. 15 and continuing through April 11. Call Maggie at 644-6107, to schedule an appointment.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on

training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. The Office of Emergency Services also offers classes in basic personal preparedness (how to take care of yourself, family, home and neighborhood), and disaster mental health. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

The North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst, presents a Millennium Party with music and song by the Toru Sato and

Band Refreshments will be served at 1:15 p.m. For additional information call Maggie or Suzanne at 644-6107.

Overseers Anonymous meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Mann avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? For further information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

"Work Buddies"; volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in

See CALENDAR, Page C11

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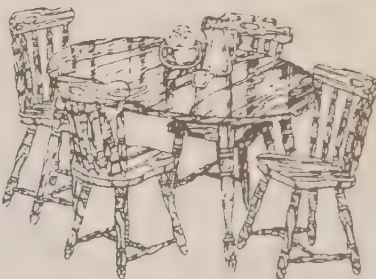
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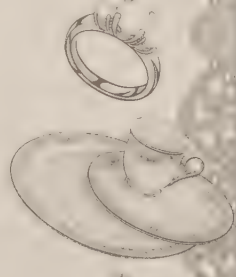
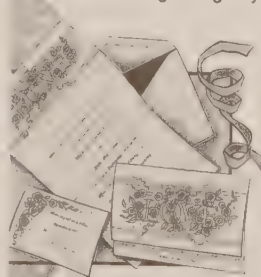
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HELLOOOOO

Let me introduce Sam to my left, Bobby to my right, and me, I'm Feenia. We are all waiting for a new family to come home to. Perhaps that could be you? Fall in love this month with a new friend from one of the Bay Area's Animal Rescue Centers and have yourself a Happy Valentine's Day!

Adopt a Pet

Beyond the dirt and matted hair...

A Heart Of Gold Lives Happily Ever After

By Pat Lynch, President - NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue

I received a phone call from one of the shelters in my area on March 15. The shelter worker was a very pleasant woman who told me about Bear, saying that he was sweet and loving but was in desperate need of a bath. I told the worker that my first day off from work was in two days and asked if it would be okay to wait until then to pick him up. The woman reassured me that the shelter was not full and that it would be fine. She stated that she would leave a note for the other workers. I specifically asked if Bear would be in danger of being put down. She said no.

The next day when I came home from work there was a message on my answering machine from another shelter worker named Hazel. She told me if I did not pick up Bear by 2 o'clock that day, he would be euthanized. It was now 7 o'clock and the time was past. I thought Bear was dead. I cried and of course could not sleep. I phoned the shelter knowing I would only get an answering machine and left a message stating how upset I was. Someone was going to answer for this dreaded and unfortunate act.

Hazel called the next morning. Bear was still alive because she had not had time to put him down the day before. She maintained that he was totally unadoptable. When I asked her why, she gave me the following reasons: he had flea bite dermatitis, his fur was horribly matted, his ears were raging with infection, he was filthy and smelled very bad, and he had tumors hanging everywhere. I told her that she had not given me one good reason why no one would want Bear. She told me to be at the shelter by 12 o'clock noon; I was there by 10.

The shelter worker who initially contacted me about Bear was at the desk and stated that she had not realized how horrible his condition was and should not have contacted me. I suspected she felt bullied by Hazel but truly didn't believe that Bear didn't deserve a second chance. Another reluctant worker led me to Bear's lonely kennel, far away from the other animals. Poor Bear was not even given a chance to meet the public. As I examined him, the shelter worker continued to try to convince me that he was unadoptable. Although I was becoming overwhelmed with the foul odor coming from his infected ears, I could tell that he was sweet and affectionate. I estimated that he was 10 to 12 years old.

He appeared to be healthy - the suspected tumors were just large, old mats of fur. I interrupted the worker and told her, "I'm taking him now. I paid the regular fee, and Bear willingly walked out of the shelter with me."

Bear jumped into my car and off we went to the pet wash. We spent two hours in the tub together. By the time I finished cutting away the matted hair, flushing his ears, and lathering him with shampoo, it was hard to determine who was wetter - Bear or me. But it didn't matter because Bear was once again a Golden. The store manager was so overcome with joy that he didn't charge us a penny. So it was out of the tub, back into the car, and off to see the veterinarian, who stayed an hour after closing just to see Bear. The vet gave him a thorough examination and all of his shots. Bear was very brave.

And now, as they say, the rest is history. Bear was placed with a wonderful foster home and adopted only a few weeks by a senior citizen. His new parents, the Jorgensons, say they have never had such a loving dog. They describe him as very obedient and wanting to please. I recently received this note from Bear's new mom:

Dear Pat,

I really appreciate your interest in Bear. We love having him in our lives. He is our constant companion and is enjoying his life with us. Our veterinarian says he appears to be in good health. He seems to feel secure here but makes sure he gets in the car with us. He loves his walks around our five acres, the beach where he runs, and the Point Arena Pier. He is a very loving and well behaved boy. Thanks again for the wonderful work you do for Golden Retrievers.

Love,
Rosamond

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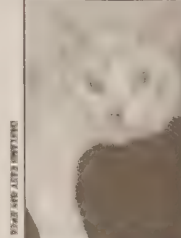


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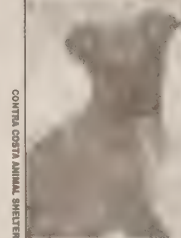


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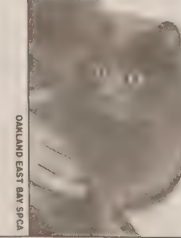
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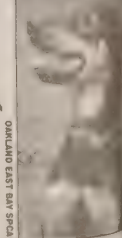
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The next Adopt a Pet page will appear March 7th.
Thank you for all your support and Happy Valentines Day!



Pet Talk

AN ADVERTISING FEATURE

Disaster Preparedness for dog and cat owners

By Dr. Allen Cesafsky



Plan ahead. In the event of an evacuation, pets may not be allowed inside human emergency shelters. Determine the best place to leave your pet in case of disaster. Identify an off-site location as well as a place in your home.

Identification and photographs. Dogs and cats should always wear properly fitting collars, personal identification rabies, and license tags. Make sure all the information on the tag is current. Keep a current photo of each pet. Make sure any distinguishing markings are visible. You will need proof of ownership to retrieve your pet from a shelter.

Disaster kit. Maintain a disaster preparedness supply kit for each of your pets.

Paperwork and Records. Store important animal documents in a zip-lock or

waterproof plastic bag. These should include vaccination and medical records.

Vaccinations. Your pets need to be current on vaccinations. You will be required to show proof of vaccinations if you need to board your pet.

If you can't take your pet with you, bring your pet indoors. Do not leave your pet chained outdoors. House dogs and cats separately, even if they normally get along.

Pet behavior may change after an emergency. Monitor your pets closely and keep them leashed. Familiar scents and landmarks may be altered, causing confusion and abnormal behavior.

If you find a pet, isolate it from your animals until it is returned to its owner, or can be examined by a veterinarian.

If possible isolate pets in rooms with no windows but adequate ventilation, such as a utility room, garage, bathroom, or other area that can be easily cleaned. Be Safe!!

"Growl" Classes offered at Berkeley Humane Society DWA: Dogs with an "Attitude"

Berkeley - If your dog growls, barks, lunges or fights with other dogs, this may be the class for you. In answer to the need for a true behavior modification program for dogs who are unfriendly with other dogs, and in doing so, make their human companions miserable, the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society announces its DWA: Dogs with an Attitude Program.

DWA is a training class for dog-aggressive dogs and their people. The class is in six weekly sessions. To qualify for the class, each dog must attend a one-on-one evaluation with the Society's behavioral counselor. Cost of the evaluation is \$40 and the six-week class is priced at only \$95. The first class session for the

year begins on February 18.

The first "growl" classes were done on the East Coast and in the Midwest. Developed by expert trainers and behaviorists, this concept includes a scientific approach to behavior modification combined with the most modern and gentle approach to animal training. Humane societies everywhere want to help dogs keep their homes with loving owners. If you're at your wits end, call the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society at (510) 845-7735 extension 22 to discuss your dog's problem.



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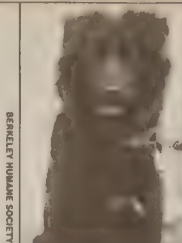
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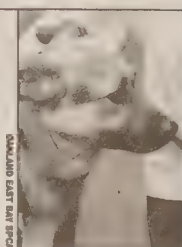
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OAKLAND EAST BAY SPCA

The Heroic Volunteer Delivers Love...with a Passion!

By Nancy DuPont

Love has many forms. Hearts or
flowers, chocolate kisses wrapped in
the old traditional ways of saying, "I
love you" this Valentine week.

Love, in its purest Agape form
has been best in the heart
of a volunteer. The unsung
hero, performing heroic
deeds daily in their everyday
lives. They are your neighbors
and your friends but they
don't talk much about what
they do. I learned that my
neighbor, Carol Mason, of
Walnut Creek spends hours
volunteering at the Animal Rescue
Foundation, including trans-
ferring loads of cats and
puppies to her car, making several trips to
the veterinary and back so that the
puppies receive their pet's neutered
and a clean bill of health.

Mr. Luch, President of Nor Cal
Retriever opens her home to
Animal Retrievers rescued from the
Animal Shelter and Susan Worth
rescued. "It breaks my heart to see
puppies at the shelter like Pat does,
I might have time between fund rais-

ing and helping rescued dogs get
linked up with proper homes."

Sue Underwood, who works and
volunteers for the Contra Costa
Animal Shelter and worries about the
animals there that have
only days to sell them-
selves as a loving pet
before they are slated to
die. No wonder she
showed up at my door
with three photos saying:
"Please run these dogs in
your next page, they may
be gone by then but I am
sure I can talk someone
into one of our others."

I have learned more
about love from volun-
teers than Valentine's Day can ever
teach me. I learned also that it is pos-
sible to get our pet population under
control if we focus on finding homes,
encourage spay and neuter programs
and the watchfulness of our heroic
volunteers.

In March we will feature a story on
one of our Volunteers.



TREASURE ISLAND CATS

Undergoing "Feral Fix"

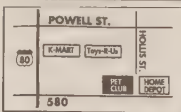
The City of San Francisco (Treasure Island Development Authority Project) is
releasing apartments on Treasure Island, U.S. Navy personnel once occupied
apartments. Many of the naval families had domesticated cats
living in the units. When the naval base was closed two years ago, many of
the families left behind their pet cats. The cats quickly multiplied and became
feralized, or feral. It is estimated that there are between two hundred to
three hundred cats on the island.

A group of volunteers from the San Francisco SPCA's Cat Assistant Team
has been feeding the cats. Greg Corning leads this dedicated group. The
group feeds six days a week in six to eight feeding stations. No matter how much
the cats are left in the feeding station the food is gone in the next day. Therefore,
the cats are not overfed and the cat population is fast growing on the island.

The San Francisco SPCA has established a "feral fix" program. The cats will
be trapped, secondly they will be given physical examinations and shots. Then
they will be spayed or neutered. Lastly the cats will be returned to the island.
The volunteers trap on a regular basis. So far 60 cats have been trapped and
returned through the "feral fix" program.

There are so many cats on the island, a great amount of cat food is
needed. The Pet Club stores throughout the San Francisco Bay Area have
cat food and bins are always full, but there is still not enough food to feed all
the cats. Therefore, cat food must be bought on a continuing basis.

Donations to the Ohlone Humane Society have sustained this lifesaving pet
program. If you would like to save the Treasure Island cats, please make a tax-
deductible donation to: Ohlone Humane Society/PMB 108, 39120 Argonaut
Avenue, Fremont, CA 94538 • 510-792-4587. Please write "Treasure Island
check."



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All Varieties
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Per Family
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Limit 2 Jugs
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• Regular • Savory Cuts • 5.5 oz.
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99¢

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE

NOW HEAR THIS!

By RONALD MUEHLEN / Edited by WILL SHURTZ

57 Unlike a klutz
58 Support the
59 "Like Alice"
63 They have the
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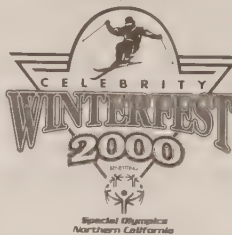
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FROM PAGE C7

Alzheimer's Disease, Mini-
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SMART project; the Alcohol Research
Group in Berkeley is conducting a study
to compare the cost and effectiveness
of two kinds of substance abuse drug
treatment: medical model drug treatment
and social model drug treatment. By call-
ing 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do
three interviews, individuals chosen for
the study receive free treatment at exist-
ing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gar-
dening and cooking program at Berke-
ley's King Middle School, seeks volun-
teers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3
p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.
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teer as a conversation partner with a
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a week. YWCA, at Berkeley, Cal 843-
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Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in
Berkeley; serving women who are
homeless or at risk of becoming home-
less, needs volunteers. The Center is
open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday
through Saturday. Volunteers are
needed for morning and afternoon
shifts. For more information, call 466-
5663.

Exhibits

The Kala Art Institute of Berkeley, 1060
Hertz Ave., continues its exhibition of 90
artists through Feb. 25. Gallery hours,
noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday
or by appointment. Call 549-2977 for ad-
ditional information.

Traywick Gallery, 1316 10th St., pre-
sents an exhibition featuring a new in-
stallation by Bay Area sculptor Susan
Martin. The exhibit continues through
March 5. Gallery hours: Tuesday through
Saturday, 11 to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 12
to 5 p.m. For more information, visit the
website at www.traywick.com or call
527-1214.

The Graduate Theological Union, 2400
Ridge Road, continues its exhibition
"Bookworks," through March 30. This
exhibit features the recent works of Anne
Hicks Siberell. Siberell is well known as
a writer and illustrator of children's
books; her career as a book artist is ce-
lebrated in this exhibition. Call 849-2400
for additional information.

"The Human Figure of paper: Works
from the Collection of Peter Selz" is on
exhibit through March 31 in the Flora
Lamson Hewitt Library, 2400 Ridge Rd.
Among the works shown is a pair of en-
gravings from William Hogarth's The

Rake's Progress, and prints by Daumier,
Max Beckmann and Willem de Kooning.
The exhibit honors Professor Peter Selz,
an internationally recognized art histo-
rian. The public is invited to a reception
on March 3, 5-7 p.m. Dr. Paul Kalstrom,
West Coast Director of the Archives of
American Art will speak about Professor
Selz's role both as scholar and collector.
For more information, contact 649-2420.

The Fig Tree Gallery, 2599 8th St., pre-
sents its February Group Show continu-
ing through Feb. 27. Hours: Saturday
and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and by
appointment. The Fig Tree Gallery is a
co-op gallery, run and managed by
gallery members. For more information,
call 540-7843.

The Berkeley Historical Society an-
nounces a new exhibit, "Then and Now."
We are celebrating Berkeley at the mil-
lennium through a series of photographs
and artifacts comparing the old and the
new. The exhibit, which is sponsored by
the Mayor's Millennium Planning Com-
mittee and the Berkeley City Council, re-
veals what has changed and what has
been preserved. Family and community
life, neighborhoods, businesses, and
transportation systems are explored. The
exhibit is open until March 25, Thursday
through Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. Wheel-
chair accessible. Admission free. Cu-
rated by Ken Cardwell and the Berkeley
Historical Society Exhibit Committee.

The Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut
St. in Live Oak Park, continues its exhibit
"Small is Beautiful" through Feb. 12.
Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sun-
day noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

"Mom's Gift," an art exhibit through
Feb. 12, at Nexus Gallery, 2701 Eighth
St. Hours 1-5 p.m. Closed Monday. The
exhibit features the works of seven
members of the Josephine family. Call
548-2261 for additional information.

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ROCKRIDGE STEAK BISTRO

The Rockridge area, like many other parts of Oakland, is blessed with a wide variety of restaurants. However, Chef George Wong felt there was room for a restaurant with a difference. George is familiar with College Avenue, having owned La Creme de la Creme for several years. That difference is the recently opened Rockridge Steak Bistro.

Located at 5301 College

Avenue, the Bistro is beautifully decorated with the works of local artists hung against a background of oak and brick that accentuate the dining experience.

In celebration of the Grand Opening, the Steak Bistro is offering a two-for-one entrée until March 31st. Open for Valentines Day with a prix-fix menu - \$50 per person. Reservations recommended.

All of your favorites will be cooked to order served with one of three classic sauces: Béarnaise, brandy, roasted garlic-herb or unadorned.

If you are not in the mood for steaks, the menu offers a variety of seafood, pasta, chicken and salads. Marvelous and unique appetizers (smoked salmon, sweet bread) and salads, round out the menu. The wines are marvelous and the art beautiful.

San Francisco's Most Awarded Pizza

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Dining & Entertainment GUIDE

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2402 Mariner Square Dr., Alameda (510) 523-FISH located next to Chevys

Whales Tail
1144 Ballena Blvd., Alameda (510) 522-6200 Located on the water

ITALIAN

Pasta Pelican
2455 Mariner Square Dr., Alameda (510) 864-7427 Behind Webster St. tube

JAPANESE

Sushi House
2226B South Shore Ctr, Alameda (510) 865-9999 across from the Warehouse

Sapporo Sushi Boat
1465 Webster Street, Alameda (510) 749-8461 • Fax (510) 749-8364

MEXICAN

Chevys
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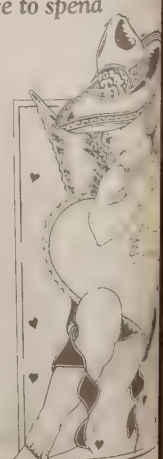
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The Auto Section

The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

February 11, 2000

Section D

New Models 2000 Nissan Sentra's reputation picks up steam [D2]

Market Watch Automakers listen to what Boomers say about design [D2]

Down Time Get creative for RV camping on a budget [D3]

Saturn turns to converted for L-Series plan

By Marion Wechter

NORTH AMERICAN AUTO WRITERS SYNDICATE

When Saturn developed the new L-Series Sedan and Wagon, the company faced an unusual challenge: How could the automaker pry loyal Saturn owners out of their old vehicles to test drive the new?

Indirectly, Saturn customers, because of their changing needs, played an important role in the development of the new L-Series.

The all new Saturn L-Series sedan and wagon are designed to compete in the mid-size market area. Exclusive to Saturn is a fuel efficient four-cylinder and V-6 engine designed for the competitive market niche.

The new aluminum four-cylinder engine has a power plant that puts out 137 horsepower at 5800 rpm and 135 ft/lbs of torque at 3400 rpm. This 2.2-liter engine features twin overhead camshafts.

Called the Twin Cam, this engine with four valves per cylinder is designed for quick response in both highway and city driving.

The Twin Cam four cylinder is standard on the LS, LS1 and LW1. The LS and LS1 feature a five speed manual transmission.

MacPherson strut front suspension plus a multi-link rear suspension contribute to efficient road handling and performance. Rack and pinion hydraulic power-assisted steering is standard on all models.

See SATURN, Page D2



THE ALL NEW Saturn L-Series sedan and wagon are designed to compete in the mid-size market area. Exclusive to Saturn is a fuel efficient four-cylinder and V-6 engine designed for the competitive market niche.

Drive, She Said



By Denise McCluggage

"Keep in mind even with four-wheel drive, the tire is what meets the road."

All-season tires turn in market gain

Light curtains, wafting in summer breezes, are hung at the windows. Light-colored slipcovers are stretched over the sofa. The rug is taken up to reveal the sheen of wood floors. The car's tires are switched from chunky treads to smoother rolling ones. Such were the rituals as the season mellowed from ice and chill to something milder. Come fall, the process cranked into reverse.

Maybe some of those small ceremonies still mark the Earth's new tilt, but one has become downright rare, at least in the United States. That is tire switching. Why? Improvements in tires, multiple cars, laziness, expense, limited stor-

See TIRES, Page D2

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2000 Nissan Sentra goes the extra mile to protect its rep

Nissan Sentra has always enjoyed the reputation of being a nice little economical and reliable sedan. With the new 2000 model, however, its image should gain new momentum.

The Sentra is Nissan's entry level car, a vehicle that buyers expect to provide good transportation, not much more. But the 2000 model is a new beginning for a few reasons. Its styling should attract favorable glances; it now has a quieter and more spacious interior; it has much better ride and handling qualities and the new engine has more zip.

The designers gave the Sentra smooth sophisticated lines that suggest it is a more expensive car. But there is much more to the 2000 model than just reshaping the exterior. The car now has a stronger, more rigid platform which makes a world of difference in handling and interior noise level.

Because of a rock-solid platform, each component of the suspension system — shocks, struts, stabilizer bars, tires, etc. — have been tuned to work in their best possible manner. This results in less road noise reverberating throughout the car. The slight noise that is heard has a more pleasant sound. This is the one factor that impressed me most during my test drive. Mentally I was comparing the low level interior noise of the Sentra to more luxurious cars such as the Mercedes. This is something unexpected. — a low priced car.

Before getting into the price, let me explain that there are various models to choose. California buyers have a CA model. It stands for Clean Air. Incidentally the Sentra is

Keane on Wheels

By Tom Keane

"When it came to real enjoyment, the top-of-the-line SE model with the performance package and 16-inch alloy wheels would be my choice."

the first car to be certified as a Super Ultra Low Emission Vehicle with zero evaporative emission standards. Amazingly, the air exhausted from this car is cleaner than the air it sucks into the engine.

There are XE, GXE and SE models. Since the GXE is Nissan's big seller, it is the focus of this report. Prices for these vehicles have yet to be announced, but a ballpark price for the GXE is \$14,500 plus the usual \$520 for shipping and handling.

The GXE is equipped with a 1.8 liter four cylinder engine that produces 126 horsepower. It also produces its maximum torque (129 lb-ft) at a very low 2,400 rpm, which results in quick acceleration at any time. When stomping on the gas pedal, a pleasant brum-brum sound is heard.

Although I drove all the Sentra



THE 2000 NISSAN SENTRA.

models with both manual and automatic transmissions; my preference was the five-speed manual. It seemed to allow me to accelerate faster when passing another vehicle. But when it came to real enjoyment, the top-of-the-line SE model with the performance package and 16-inch alloy wheels would be my choice.

But this is not to suggest that the GXE is below the poverty belt. The car has power windows and locks,

tachometer, velour seat cloth, power side view mirrors, and variable intermittent wipers. Cars equipped with the option package have a 60/40 fold-down rear seat that includes a cargo net, plus a remote keyless entry with a trunk release.

The luxury package for this model includes 15-inch alloy wheels, an immobilizer vehicle security system and an overhead storage console with map lamps. For those who re-

ally want a well equipped car, an automatic transmission, sunroof, airbags and anti-lock brakes are available.

The standard equipped 100-watt with an integrated clock can be upgraded to a 180-watt AM FM CD with seven speakers. The sound quality is great but the buttons and dials are too small. That being the Sentra's only shortcoming, there's no doubt this car has a bright future.

SPECIFICATIONS

2000 NISSAN SENTRA

VEHICLE TYPE

5-passenger, 4-door FWD compact sedan

BASE PRICE

est. \$14,500

ENGINE TYPE

4-cylinder DOHC w/MPFI

DISPLACEMENT

1.8-liter

HORSEPOWER (net)

126 at 6000 rpm

TORQUE (lb-ft)

129 at 2400 rpm

TRANSMISSION

4-speed elect. ctrl. automatic

WHEELBASE

99 in. 2514 mm

TREAD (front/rear)

58 / 57 in. 1473 mm

OVERALL LENGTH

177 in. 4495 mm

OVERALL WIDTH

67 in. 1701 mm

HEIGHT

55 in. 1397 mm

TURNING CIRCLE (curb)

34 ft. 10.3 m

CURB WEIGHT

2,593 lbs. 1176 kg

FUEL CAPACITY

13 gals. 3.43 L

EPA MILEAGE RATING

26 city, 33 highway

ASSEMBLY PLANT

Aguascalientes, Mexico

STRONG FEATURE

Quiet interior

WEAK FEATURE

Radio buttons

Tires

FROM PAGE D1

storage space and the American drivers' willingness to compromise.

In 1980, only 10 percent of vehicles in the U.S. rolled into winter with a set of winter tires. Today the market share of all-season tires is 80 percent. Did you follow the trend? Can you remember a spring when you were the last one in the neighborhood to shed your winter tires and a late snowstorm you were snowed out of your neighborhood? This is the old freeway with tires whirling for traction? Long ago, I'll wager. And I'll see you a poker game a few reasons tire switching is not the seasonal rate it once was.

Improvement in tires: The all-purpose tire — yours might say "All-Season" — has improved. Much in the past decade that hanging to some tires, snow tires, necessary for those living where winter is less than tedious. A snow tire with a tread that meshes with the snow like a gear, or one that's safe enough on ice to wear the difference between going or not going in bad weather.

Keep in mind even with a wheel drive, the tire is what must

the road. Snow country regulars will tell you that they would rather have a two-wheel drive vehicle and the right tires than a 4x4 with the wrong tires.

Multiple cars: That's how I avoided the seasonal switch of wheels years ago when I lived at the top of a ski area. I owned a four-wheel drive with aggressive-tread tires and a sedan car with summer tires. I matched the vehicle to the conditions. (See the following reason.)

Laziness: I didn't like expending the effort to change four tires twice a year. I am not alone. This correlates well with discovering the advantages in not putting up with four tires in the fall.

Expense: As the best way to change from summer to winter tires and back is to have two sets of wheels, one mounted with snow tires and the other with summer wear, it clearly costs more. Even having only one set of wheels with two sets of tires costs more, particularly when factoring in the labor costs of mounting and balancing. All-season looks to be in economical way to go.

Limited storage space: When do apartment dwellers keep an extra set of wheels? Even car owners with garages don't always have room

for extra wheels and tires, especially if two cars share one garage. All-season tires have increasing appeal to those in this situation.

Willingness to compromise: True, all tires are a compromise — tire wear against adhesion, wet weather grip against gas economy — it goes on. The all-season tire is a marvel of compromise, spanning a wide range of needs. And it is a better tire for either end of the compromise. Specialized tires were

However, the same advantage gets a specific need with precision. Highly specialized tires for specific

I summer I drive a car. On such a tire car, a good driver the experience of a car on a road is a superb plastic take-out forks. It's a taste of a fine wine with a clove-pinned nose. Maybe that seasonal compromise will enjoy the pleasures of a full glass of wine at the end of the day.

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SPECIFICATIONS:

Type: 4-door sedan

■ Base price: \$17,610

■ As tested: \$18,220

■ Options on test car: AM/FM stereo-radio with cassette player and eight coaxial speakers (\$100); destination charges (\$440)

■ Engine: 4 valves per cylinder DOHC inline four-cylinder, transversely mounted, front drive

■ Displacement: 2.2 liters

■ Horsepower: 137 bhp @ 5800 rpm

■ Torque: 135 ft-lbs @ 4400 rpm

■ Transmission: 5-speed manual or 4-speed automatic optional

■ Steering: power-assisted rack-and-pinion

■ Brakes: power-assisted front discs, rear drum

■ Wheelbase: 106.5 in.

■ Overall length: 190.4 in.

■ Width: 69.3 in.

■ Height: 78.8 in.

■ Track: front/rear: 59.8/59.4 in.

■ Curb weight: 2,965.2 lbs.

■ Fuel capacity: 14.52 gal.

■ EPA average: 23 mpg city/32 mpg highway

urn owners. The L-Series has a European element in body style, and yet maintains a classic Saturn look. The headlamp and tail lamp designs are the same and daytime running lights are part of the standard equipment.

It was a pleasure to be on the highway. Acceleration was effortless when merging onto the freeway and the automatic shift was smooth when going through the gear changes.

The LSI wardrobe consisted of a silver exterior body with grey cloth seats. I was delighted to sit in the back seat while two fellow automotive journalists talked the talk up front. Being the lady that I am, it was my choice. My turn would come later.

There was plenty of leg room and the seats were comfortable. The

cloth went all the way up to the window edges thus eliminating a lot of road noise. Optional leather seats are available.

A 60/40 split rear seat provides more cargo room, and a 17.5 cubic foot trunk space provides more than enough room for luggage on long trips.

Two cup holders are built into the rear seats in addition to the two in the front console. A larger glove box stores more bulky item such as road maps that sometimes end up on the floor when taking long trips.

When hundreds of Saturn owners converge from all over the United States in one hundred degree heat and talk Saturn talk, that's dedication and loyalty.

Automakers listen to over-50 set

By Michelle Krebs

With a baby boomer turning age 50 every seven seconds, auto companies, their suppliers and industry prognosticators are paying close attention to vehicle purchases. About 68 million people in the U.S. are 50 or older, in five years, 107 million will be over 55.

Today's over-50 car buyers generally purchase more expensive vehicles, ranging from pricier mid-size cars to top-of-the-line luxury automobiles and premium sport utility vehicles, according to a study by J. D. Powers and Associates, a market research firm in Agoura Hills.

Baby boomers are slightly more likely to purchase domestic brands than imported ones. They lean toward sensible and utilitarian vehicles. Their list of must-have features relates largely to comfort and convenience. They want leather seats and lumbar support in the seats and sturdy cup holders, younger buyers want premium audio systems with compact disc changers and sunroofs. Safety and security are high on their wish list.

Manufacturers and suppliers, who take up to four years to develop new cars and trucks, are using special teams to conduct surveys and consumer clinics to find out what older buyers want. General Motors are finding over-50 drivers want large knobs and switches, easy grip door handles, high-contrast letters and letters on gauges, large openings and high-positioned

At General Motors, the Paragon Team studies the needs of aging car users, many of whom face physical challenges as they age, and tries to make sure they meet those needs.

Based on consumer clinic research, GM has made design changes in its vehicles to accommodate older drivers. Ignition keys are being located on the dashboard instead of the steering column so the wrist is straight as the key is turned, providing more direct force.

Climate control knobs are large, lettering is white on a black background, and interior door handles are open all the way around so the hand can get a solid grip to pull the door closed.

Ford has developed what it calls the Third Age Suit, an outfit designers don to simulate movements of an aging person as they style new cars and trucks. The coveralls have devices like athletic braces at all the joints, including the ankles, knees and neck, to restrict movement. Rubber gloves simulate the way an older person loses touch and fine motor skills. Heavily tinted, fogged glasses replicate the yellowing of the eyes.

Down the Road

At Mazda, drivers, age 55 to 75, designed their own car interior. The seniors sat inside a model of a car interior, adjusted the seat, positioned the steering wheel and pointed out where they wanted controls.

As they designed the interior, a computer stored their input and later created a blueprint of the interior they designed. From that information and video tapes of interviews with the people, Mazda's designers sketched an interior.

The Lear Corp., a Southfield, Mich.-based supplier of seats and interior components, held focus groups of buyers age 50 to 75. The older buyers liked racing-style four-point safety belts because the two shoulder harnesses slipped easily on like the straps and the lap belt proved far easier to buckle in front than traditional belts that slide into a slot mounted on the side of the seat. Lear incorporated the seatbelt, as well as a number of other features, in a concept vehicle it calls the Trans 1.

Seats swivel and the steering wheel moves out of the way to make it easier to emerge from the car. The flat floor requires no leg lifting over a door sill to climb in. The rear storage tray pulls out so items like golf clubs

can be slid out instead of requiring the person to lean into the vehicle and pull them out. White-on-black lettering proved the easiest to read, aging eyes. All controls were buttons instead of switches or knobs.

Johnson Controls has conducted consumer clinics to consider the overall architecture of the vehicle should change to suit aging boomers.

As baby boomers are buying trucks, minivans and sport utility vehicles in record numbers, the companies are developing ways to help people aboard these higher vehicles as easily.

For instance, a seat with a bolster for the thigh that folds down when the driver wants to get in and out is being easier to use and less intimidating to older drivers.

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Saturn

FROM PAGE D1

Front-disc and rear-drum brakes, power-assisted, are standard on all LSI, LSI and LWI models. Antilock brakes are an option on all models.

The test car was equipped with the optional computer-controlled four-speed automatic. It is available on the LSI and LSI and standard on the LWI.

The LSI V-6 190-hp engine produces 182 horsepower at 6000 rpm and 184 ft-lbs of torque at 4400 rpm. The LSI V-6 190-hp engine with four valves per cylinder is designed for performance on the highway, plus better fuel efficiency.

A steel-body structure designed with stiffness and rigidity plays an important role mainly for stability and control on the highway.

A welding of the roof to the body, along with other safety features, some of which are the front crash limiter also acting as a cross member.

Many of these safety features almost produce a safety cocoon around the passengers because of the rigid frame structure.

No vehicle is 100 percent safe in crashes, but it is reassuring to note that safety is an important factor in engineering design.

I remember the first Saturn I drove. There was a lot of engine noise on the highway, and it would stick out its tongue when asked to accelerate. What a difference now.

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THE ALAMEDA JOURNAL

Get creative for RV camping adventure

There's a way no matter your budget

Rolling Homes

By Jeff Johnston

of course, but camping off-peak season can save a bundle. Many campgrounds, both public and private, offer lower rates during the off-season, just as do hotels and resorts. On some occasions these rates come at the cost of reduced services and facilities, but that's how the lower rates come about, so you no doubt anticipate such a situation.

■ **Site selection:** Many campgrounds offer a variety of sites with different amenity levels ranging from full hookups to tent sites. Some tent sites literally can't accommodate an RV due to size, but some campgrounds will allow an RV in a designated no-hookup tent space at a lower per-night rate.

It's also possible to use a designated campground overflow site, if you sweet talk the campground owner and explain a low-budget situation.

While it's hard to take someone seriously when the person drives up in an RV that costs tens of thousands of dollars and then claims budget restrictions, a campground overflow lot is used when the campground is full and there's no place else to put campers.

Some campground owners may balk at the use of an overflow spot when there are regular spaces left, but you never know until you try.

Another option that's been gaining in popularity, and controversy, is the practice of camping overnight in parking lots at malls and large de-



HANDOUT PHOTO

DO YOUR HOMEWORK to land a sweet spot for an RV vacation.

partment stores such as Wal-Mart, K-Mart and others. RV drivers simply park and sleep overnight in such parking lots in areas that have the approval of local city ordinances and of course, with the blessings of the landowners.

On one hand, this makes a lot of sense. The store owners often appreciate the *de facto* "extra security" of having someone present in the lot in front of a closed place of business. The RV operators often want little

more than a legal place to park and sleep for the night when en route to a travel destination, and a parking lot that's flat and offers easy access plus the security of street lights is a good place to simply stop and sleep.

There are no facilities at such a place, not counting restaurants and other local businesses nearby, but such short-term dry camping is fine with many RVers.

On the other hand, some local campground owners are starting to

bring legal action against the stores and they're starting to work on new city ordinances opposing such freebie camping.

Each vehicle parking overnight in a store lot is one less vehicle helping support the campground as a place of business. There are also questions of parking lots meeting the same health standards required of campgrounds.

The best bet is to check with the store manager if this is the route you

choose to take on a given overnight stop. If you don't, you could wind up with a hefty fine without knowing such an action is illegal in some places.

Do your homework in a new area. Be creative and you can cut the cost of your overnight stays if budget restraints are a necessary part of your RV travels.

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PREPARE PARTS



Olds to pace Indy

For the 10th time since 1949, Oldsmobile will set the pace at the Indianapolis 500. When the words, "Oldsmobile, start your engines!" resound throughout the immense Indianapolis Motor Speedway on May 28th, Oldsmobile's new 2001 Indy will start something big — Oldsmobile's largest single-day sports event. Oldsmobile made history in 1957 when it paced, raced, and won with engines based on the same design. This year's 2001 Aurora has a 3.5-liter V8 engine.

Driving business

Car sales are a huge business. According to a recent Associated Press report by Justin Hyde, automobile sales handled \$534 billion in 1998, or represented about 20 percent of U.S. retail sales. The average price of an automobile last year: \$19,000.

Mixed messages for Mitsubishi

At a meeting with automotive executives, Pierre Gagnon, recently appointed executive vice president and chief operating officer of Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America, Inc., said the company has spent more than \$1 billion on advertising in the United States. Yet in a recent survey, 90 percent of Americans didn't know Mitsubishi sold cars.

Benz does digital

Mercedes-Benz USA is the first car maker to offer U.S. drivers a fully integrated digital cellular phone. The auto maker and Mo-

torola have teamed up to offer a fully integrated digital StarTAC portable phone.

One of the smallest and lightest wireless phones on the market today, the dual-mode digital/analog StarTAC is now available on all model-year 2000 Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

The digital StarTAC integrated phone uses the most advanced digital cellular technology to reduce background noise, manage calls more efficiently and increase security and network capacity. It also offers a dual mode for analog operation in places where digital is not yet available.

As the digital StarTAC is so deeply integrated with the vehicle's electronic systems, drivers with this phone are offered several advanced features, including:

■ **Memory synchronicity** - allows phone book and other data to automatically upload from the phone into the vehicle's auto system display.

■ **Multi-function dashboard** and steering wheel control - so drivers can make calls using the in-dash display and steering wheel controls that are fully synchronized with the phone.

■ **Integrated radio features** - helps eliminate distraction by automatically muting the radio and pausing the CD or cassette player.

■ **Voice recognition capabilities** - on some models, allow phone calls to be managed through simple verbal commands.

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Isuzu Amigo proves a friendly SUV option

Down the Road

By Jill Amadio

If you haven't dipped your toe into the trendy sport utility vehicle market yet because there are too many shapes and sizes out there to confuse you, with more on the way, a trip to an Isuzu dealership could help set your straight. One of the few automakers to specialize in SUVs, Isuzu builds them big, small, strong, and high tech.

If all you need is an SUV to prove to the neighbors you're keeping up with them, the Amigo subcompact fits the bill, as well as your garage, without breaking the bank.

Assembled in Indiana, the \$15,000 Amigo is the most versatile of the group with a choice of either a detachable sunroof and a fold-down soft top, or a hardtop with separate sunroofs for front and backseat passengers. A rear-four-wheel drive, two-door SUV, it has a side-opening tailgate topped with the spare tire.

For 2000, Isuzu equips its small SUV with a standard 2.2-liter in-line four-cylinder, 130-horsepower engine, or the upgrade, a 3.2-liter 205-horsepower V6. Engineering improvements provide high torque at low and intermediate speeds and better engine performance and greater fuel economy. Platinum-tipped spark plugs on the V6 have a service life of 100,000 miles.

Part of the Amigo's attraction is its relatively short 14-foot length that gives it an easy-to-handle tight turning circle, yet it can seat five passengers — four more comfortably — with lots of storage space.

Up one class is the compact-size Rodeo. The most popular of Isuzu's SUVs for its practicality and on sale here for the last eight years, the 2000 version is basically the same as for 1999 with the exception of a more rugged front end and a new standard-equipment suspension control

system. A computer monitors input from sensors on the chassis and shocks to adjust to one of seventeen different rebound rates for a smoother ride.

With three different versions and engines choice the same as the Amigo, the Rodeo has an electronic shift-on-the-fly four-wheel drive system operated by a button on the dash. You can speed along at 60 miles an hour and switch over to 4WD instantly. There are three Rodeo models: the base S with 2WD, the LS and top-of-the-line LSE both with 4WD.

If you want to look really tough, pick a special trim package called Ironman. An option on the LS with the V6, it has overfenders, bodyside moldings, 16-inch wheels and Ironman graphics. Air conditioning, cruise control, tilt steering, power windows, doors and moonroof and roof rack crossbars are all part of the package.

Moving up the line, the mid-size Trooper is Isuzu's largest SUV. Priced around \$28,000 — all 2000 Isuzu prices are holding to the 1999 line — this is the company's most roomy and comfortable. It comes in three models and 2WD or 4WD: S, LS and Limited.

The base S version has a four-cylinder; the LS and Limited are powered by a 215-horsepower, 3.5-liter aluminum V6, also available as an option on the S.

If you pick a Trooper with the new grade-sensing automatic transmission that prevents hunting back and forth between gears while

climbing or descending, it will be teamed with a torque-on-demand traction control system, great for almost any kind of road surface or driving condition. The system is full-time 4WD that maximizes cornering stability, high-speed stability and take-off performance on low-friction surfaces.

Manual transmission Troopers have a push button part-time 4WD system and a floor-mounted gear

lever to change from 4WD-high to 4WD-low.

Not all of Isuzu's SUVs, big or small, have features we've come to expect as standard equipment, such as variable intermittent windshield wipers, so check out the package and trim levels carefully to make sure they include the features you consider necessary.

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1950 Riley drophead still carries the day in classic style

Doug Campbell, an undergraduate at Clemson in 1965, went home to Concord, N.H., and convinced his father of the necessity of a student's having a car. In June 1965, father and son drove to Boston to investigate a 1950 Riley drophead they had seen advertised.

The younger Campbell recalls it was an unusually ugly olive drab green color, the top was ratty-looking, and during the test-drive the horn honked at every right turn. Still, the elegance captivated the young man. He purchased the car with the handsome lines and the big chrome landau bars and set off north for home, 75 miles distant. Once in New Hampshire, the green paint was stripped off and Campbell repainted his Riley with a coat of British racing green.

With autumn approaching, Campbell drove the 1,000 miles back to school without incident. During the next year he and his car with a leaky beige top became acquainted with two persons who would become influential. The first person was a British mechanic who managed to keep the car running, and convinced Campbell of the need to treasure the car.

"His fear," Campbell said, "was that the Riley would break down on the road and be towed to the junkyard."

The second person was a fellow student named Kay who agreed to rides in the Riley despite the lack of a heater and the need for an umbrella inside the car during rainstorms. She actually became so fond of the car that she named the distinguished-looking vehicle "Victor".

Classic Classics

By Vern Parker

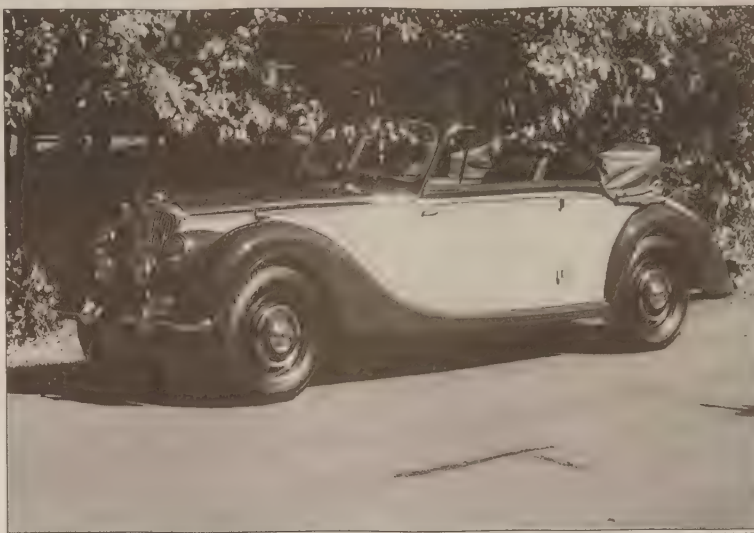
A year later, in 1966, Campbell drove his vehicle back home to New Hampshire, storing it in his father's barn. Even without Victor, Kay saw fit to marry her car pool buddy. While they were at the University of Kentucky, where Doug was a graduate student, the car languished in New Hampshire.

After school came a career in the Air Force. In 1980, Campbell was assigned to Belgium. With the idea of eventual restoration in its home country in mind, Victor was shipped to Antwerp. Soon after settling in Belgium, Campbell joined the Riley Club in England.

Through the club he met a fellow who could rebuild the mechanical part of the car. The 2.5-liter, four-cylinder engine was rebuilt, along with the transmission. Now all the gears had all their teeth. The brake system, hydraulic in front and mechanical in rear, was also rebuilt.

With the mechanical gear restored, the Campbells went to England to retrieve the car. They gave it a thorough once-over. "When you slam the door and wood chips fall on the ground," Campbell's wife explains, "something is wrong." The car was not taken home but instead delivered to an artisan in Durham, in northern England, who agreed to tackle the coach work.

He simply replaced the wooden skeleton of the car, reupholstered the interior and installed a new dark-



1950 RILEY DROPHEAD.

green-lined fitted convertible top. In exchange for a break on the price of restoration, the Campbells agreed not to expect fast service.

That agreement was stretched to the limit. The Campbells made frequent unannounced visits to check

on the progress or lack thereof. Campbell was fearful of losing one of the few surviving drophead Rileys. Only 500 were built between 1949 and 1951.

After a few years assigned in Belgium, Campbell was transferred to

Germany for another four years, after that he was reassigned stateside with Victor still incomplete. Finally, in 1993, the Campbells received word that the car was done.

They flew to England where, upon seeing the car, Campbell's wife had a premonition and urged her husband to have the car trucked to London. He did, and he's happy to did.

The man who rebuilt the car was a channeled inspected the finished product in London and reported the restoration was correct, but the car had not been screwed back together properly. He told the relieved Campbells their Riley could not have made the trip to London and would have sustained major damage.

Campbell is now retired from the Air Force and, though dragging the Riley around the world was a true labor, he has no regrets. Working together, the Campbells can raise or lower the manual top in seconds. Then it's time to take a therapeutic drive in the elegant old car with the 6.00x16-inch Michelin tires smoothing out the bumps in the road as only a gentleman named Victor can do.

If you have an antique car of interest to "Classic Classics" readers, write to Vern Parker detailing its merits. (Please, no inquiries about selling or buying vehicles.) His address: 2221 Abbottsford Drive, Vienna, VA 22188

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See CLUBS, Page D5

BAY AREA CAR CLUBS

'53-'54 Studebaker Coupe Owners

3540 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Attn: Dennis Hommel

1937-1938 Buick Club

1005 Rilma Lane
Los Altos, CA 94022
Attn: Harry Logan

700 Owners Club

1180 Hollenbeck Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Alfa Romeo Association

PO Box 4207
Foster City, CA 94404
President: Henrik Johansen, (415) 776-7950 or AlfaGTV@pacbell.net
Membership: Richard Thompson, 408-252-5410 or richthom@gte.net
Newsletter: Overhead Cams

Altamont Cruisers

PO Box 2144
Livermore, CA 94550
Attn: Ed English, 925-447-9480
Monthly show and shine: 4th Wednesday of the month April through September (3rd Wed. August) Monthly meeting second Tuesday each month, 7:30 p.m., Cattleman's Restaurant in Livermore.

Antique Automobile Club of America, California Region

Pres. Lloyd Riggs 925-939-9007; VP Don Azevedo 925-427-6624; Sec. Thane Atherstone 925-228-5750. Meetings: 2nd Tues. of the month, 7:30 p.m. Call for meeting place. For those interested in autos 25 years and older. Web site: www.aaca.org.

Austin-Healy Club

PO Box 6197
San Jose, CA 95150

Bay Area Miata Association/Miata Club of America

Membership: Mimi Blaine
PO Box 60532
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0532
510-865-0804
E-mail: enjoy89@aol.com; Web site: www.txtbama (for local info) or www.miata.net (for national info)
Meetings: Second Tuesday or Wednesday of the month; location varies. Newsletter BAMA Backroads lists activities including rallies, fun runs, autocrosses, social dinners, Laguna Seca historic races, and more.

Bay Area Mustang Association

PO Box 20292
Castro Valley, CA 94546-8292
E-mail: mustanggt@hotmail.com
President: Dennis Rohde 510-797-2667
Secretary Chuck Wilens 510-481-8784
Meetings 7:30 p.m. second Tuesday each month at Castro Valley Women's Club, 18330 Redwood Rd., all years of Mustangs welcome.

Bay Area Thunderbird Owners' Club (BATOC)/Classic Thunderbird Club International

Ann Gregory, president

415-479-7320
John Suter, VP Membership
415-485-0446

Dedicated to the preservation of the classic 1955-57 Thunderbird. Old-est classic Thunderbird club in U.S.

BMW Car Club of America, Golden Gate Chapter

909 Marina Village Parkway, # 189
Alameda, CA 94501
Contact: Charles Quarton, president, 408-746-3662
Meetings: Board meets third Wednesday of the month; general meetings as announced. Hotline: 925-556-4GGC or www.ggc-bmw-cca.org

BMW Vintage Club of America

P.O. Box S
San Rafael, CA 94913
Attn: Tom Graham

Borgward Owners Club

2901 Moorpark Ave. #265
San Jose, CA 95128
408-244-3123
Don Hoskins

Buick Club of America, California Capitol Chapter

Publicity Coordinator: Fran Frates
4767 Bowerwood Drive
Carmichael, CA 95608
916-489-6631

Cadillac Drivers Club

5825 Vista Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824
Attn: Wray Tibbs

California Chrysler Products Club

PO Box 2660
Castro Valley, CA 94546
Norm Frey, (510) 886-0931
Meetings: Monthly, at members' homes. Membership: \$15/year. Dedicated to the preservation, restoration and enjoyment of Chrysler product cars. Organized meets and tours. Monthly newsletter, the Silver Dome Gazette, with photos, wiring diagrams, specifications, classified ads free to members.

Club Elite

6238 Ralston Avenue
Richmond, CA 94805-1519
Attn: Mike Ostrov

CSRG (Classic Sports Racing Group)

PO Box 825
Danville, CA 94526
Dan Radowicz or James Herlinger
925-736-2823
Monthly board meetings, one annual membership meeting
Four to six races per year

Contemporary Historical Vehicle Association (CHVA)

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2870 eden Plains Rd.
Brentwood, CA 94513
925-625-3333
Open to all cars 1928 to 20 years old. Monthly tours in 24 regions. National tour coming up of the Carolina Coast. Magazine, nationwide emergency support group.

Diablo A's Model A Ford Club

Chapter of Model A Ford Club of

America, Inc.
PO Box 6125
Concord, CA 94524

Contact: Steve Mick, 925-838-7570, smick@verio.com.

Meetings 8 p.m. third Friday of the month (except December) at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA.

Diablo Four Wheelers

Concord, CA
Contact: Steve Mallo, vice president 925-799-1063

Family four-wheeling since 1964. Primarily Jeeps, but all makes of 4WD accepted. Signatory to the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs (CA4WDC) in Sacramento.

Meetings first Tuesday of every month 7:30 p.m. at Round Table Pizza, Martinez, Pine St. exit off Hwy. 4. Guests are encouraged and welcome.

Diablo Valley Classics

PO Box 21514
Concord, CA 94521
(925) 609-7419

Diablo Valley Corvette Club

PO Box 5824
Concord, CA 94524

Hotline: 925-672-8225
President: Jim Neylan (925) 676-0873

Diablo Valley Mustang Association

President: Mike Weldon
Web site: www.jps/dvma
Meetings: Second Wednesday each month at Fuddrucker's, the Willows, Diamond Blvd., Concord. Mustangs of all years.

DKW Club of America

260 Santa Margarita Avenue
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Attn: Byron Brill

Early Ford V-8 Club of America

PO Box 2122
San Leandro, CA 94577
Attn: Dan Wittern

Econoline Organization

15039 Costela Street
San Leandro, CA 94579
Attn: Jay Long

Falcon Club of America, River City Chapter

c/o Mark Milton
610 Kentucky Ave.
Woodland, CA 95695

530-661-3606

Fiero Owners Club of America

Northern California Chapter
2380 Pleasant Hill Rd.
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Ford T5 Owners

PO Box 669
Livermore, CA 94551-0669

Golden Gate

Classic Thunderbird Club

Mike or Rita Press
124 Hollyhock Ct
Hercules, CA 94547
510-799-0556
E-mail: mjrpgp@hotmail.com
Meeting/outing: Second Saturday of the month. For those interested

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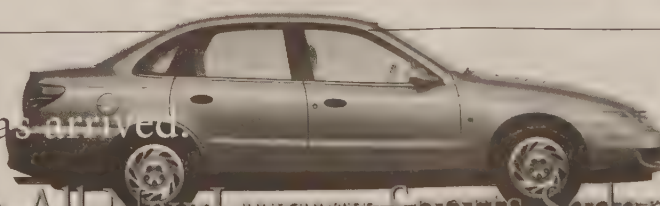
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Clubs

FROM PAGE D4

the month. For those interested in 1955 through 1957 Thunderbirds, members come from Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo counties.

Golden Gate Lotus Club

PO Box 117303
Burlingame, CA 94011

Green Flag Driving Association

342 Laurelwood Road
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Hispano-Suiza Society

175 St. Germain Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94114

Joe & Bizzarini Owners Club

2025 Drake Drive
Oakland, CA 94611

Italian Car Registry

3305 Valley Vista Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94598-3943
Attn: John DeBoer

Jaguar Associate Group (JAG)

Attn: Pat Shasby, Pres.
13580 Hoven Dr.
Saratoga, CA 95070-5403
408-867-1265, FAX 408-867-3731
www.jag.org
JAG is a San Francisco Bay Area car club consisting of 300+ owners and individuals who appreciate Jaguar automobiles. The location of meetings changes each month. Newsletter: The JAGazette, Richard J. France, editor, 408-353-3770.

Jewett Owners Club

24005 Clawtor Road
Hayward, CA 94545

Lamborghini Club of America

170 Monte Vista Road
Orinda, CA 94563

Locomobile Society of America

3165 California Street
San Francisco, CA 94115-2412
Attn: Norm Buckhart

Mercury Stray Cats Classic

Cougar Automobile Club
Dennis Pierachini, President
PO Box 41
Fairfield, CA 94533-0004
E-mail: info@classiccougar.com
Web site: www.classiccougar.com
Dedicated to preservation and enjoyment of classic Cougars, 1967-73. Meetings: 2 p.m. second Saturday each month, Burger Road, Pleasant Hill. Monthly newsletter with technical tips, calendar of events, reports, tips from related events, list of establishments for club discounts, want ads and more. Annual car show, fall club outing, technical workshops. Membership \$20/year.

MG Owners' Club (MGOC)

Correspondence secretary: George Seneberg
9 Pomona Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530
510-525-9125
E-mail: j2george@pacbell.net
Web site: home.pacbell.net/jensten
Meetings: 7 p.m. second Thursday each month, location varies. Activities include tours, rallies, tech sessions, shows, picnics, annual dinner, awards, monthly gatherings at pubs, outings. Monthly newsletter The Outgoing provides free ads for members, technical and helpful articles, humor, and events.

Mid-Peninsula Old Time Auto Club

PO Box 525
Belmont, CA 94002
Attn: Hal Schuette

Military Vehicle Club of

California/Military Vehicle Preservation Association

East Bay Contact: Lee Edwards,
925-447-9387.

Monthly swap meets, two statewide rallies. Anyone with an interest in any age and nationality of military vehicles is welcome.

National association: PO Box 520378
Independence, MO 64052-0378
816-737-5111

Membership: \$30/year

Mt. Diablo High Performance Chevy Club

4026 Burbank Dr.
Concord, CA 94521
925-827-0851 after 7 p.m.
925-686-2624 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
1992-1999 Corvettes and Camaros. Meetings once a month, schedule varies. Contact: Nancy Henderson.

National Auto Sport Association

PO Box 21555
Richmond, CA 94805

Northern California Corvette Association

Sharon Evans, social director, 510-538-8716

www.classiccar.com/clubs/nccca/nccahome.htm

Meetings first Tuesday every month 7:30 p.m. at Castro Valley Women's Club, 18330 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley

Billed as America's oldest Corvette club. Events include autocross, drag races, tours, shows, charitable events. Annual event is Vette Magic, 2-day race event early June.

North American Singer Owners Club

6211 Westwood Way
Oakland, CA 94611
Attn.: Jonas Waxman
(510) 339-1556
singer4ad@aol.com

Northern California Cruisers

John Loudon
PO Box 20234
El Sobrante, CA 94802
510-233-0721
Pre-1972 American stock, custom, hot rods. Annual event: Cruisin' in the Sun, benefit car show June 6, 1999 in Napa.

Northern California Kit Car Club

c/o Vern Hance, treasurer
3317 Ellesmere Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
925-938-1442
Web site: www.kitcar.com/nckcc
Organized to promote learning more about cars through sharing information among members. Annual September show. Monthly newsletter. Shows, parades, promotions. Membership: \$2/month.

Northern California Model T Ford Club, Inc.

Chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America
4100 Alhambra Ave., PO Box 1696
Martinez, CA 94553
Meetings second Thursday of the month (except December) at City of Lafayette Recreation Building, 711 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette. Dues: \$25.

Pacheco, Martinez and Port Costa Sewing Circle, Book Review Society and Street Racing Association

9 Benita Way
Martinez, CA 94553
925-228-1410
Founded 1985, more than 1,200 members. Club meets irregularly to enjoy their automobiles, automobile business. Promotes Gran Prix racing at grass roots level. No membership restrictions, no dues.

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA)

John Saunders
617 Keats Dr.
Vallejo, CA 94591
707-643-3998.

Meetings first Wed. of each month at the Orinda Library at 7:30 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club, Inc.

Chapter of the Model T Ford Club of America. PO Box 2081, Saratoga, CA 95070

Meetings third Friday of the month, 8 p.m., Mairdorn Room, 464 N. Winchester, Santa Clara. Membership: \$20.

Santa Clara Valley Thunderbirds

6371 Firefly Drive
San Jose, CA 95120

Shelby American Auto Club

PO Box 700789
San Jose, CA 95170

Solid Axle Corvette Club

PO Box 2288
N. Highlands, CA 95660

Sorry Safari Touring Society - MGs (SSTS)

Membership: Ben Lenci
719 Wichita Dr.
Fremont, CA 94539
510-651-0808

Meetings: Third Wednesday each month, location varies.

Sports Car Club of America

301 Preston Court
Livermore, CA 94550

Sprite-Midget Owners Group

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Santa Clara, CA 95051

Sunbeam Alpine Club

1752 Oswald Place
Santa Clara, CA 95051

Sunbeam Tiger Owners Association

5712 San Luis Court
Pleasanton, CA 94566
www.enravers.com/tiger

Tri-Valley Classic Chevy Club

Meets 7:30 p.m. on the second Friday of the month at the Livermore Airport. '55-'57 Chevy cars, trucks, Corvettes.

Vintage Mustang Owners Assn.

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San Jose, CA 95120

Volvo Club of America

E-mail: Dspielvol@aol.com.
Call David at 510-849-0961

Western States Corvettes

2321 Falling Water Ct.
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Zimmerman Registry

2081 Madeline Court
Los Altos, CA 94024-6725
Attn.: Chet & Marlene Zimmerman

-Compiled by staff

Women, know state lemon laws

Women Auto Know

By Mary Jackson

To protect consumers from manufacturers' defects in new vehicles, most states have passed lemon laws. They're powerful weapons that can help you turn lemons into lemonade.

You've been in and out of the dealer's repair shop so many times you're feeling dizzy. You've logged countless numbing hours in customer waiting lounges, drinking very bad coffee. The courtesy van driver and you have bonded. And the word citrus has taken on a new meaning for you.

Your new dream car has turned into a nightmare. There's a bad vibration in the rear end that won't go away. The dealer has tried to fix it several times, but the problem is sticking like a poor relation. You haven't been charged for the work, but how do you put a price on the mental wear and tear it's costing you?

Don't be surprised to learn that you're not alone. Cars and trucks may be better built than ever before, but there are still a significant number of defective vehicles that are returned to automakers yearly. To protect you from having to live with these problem cars most states have passed lemon laws.

The term lemon law covers the different state laws that protect consumers from defective vehicles that are covered under warranty. In addition to cars, these laws cover vans, trucks or the drive train portions of motor homes purchased for non-business use. If the manufacturer or dealer cannot fix your vehicle within a "reasonable" number of repair attempts, they must replace the vehicle or reimburse you for its purchase

price.

In general, for a vehicle to qualify as a "lemon" (1) the problem must substantially impair the use, value, or safety of the vehicle, (2) the manufacturer must have been advised of the problem and, (3) they or their authorized dealership must have been given sufficient opportunity to correct it.

The specific requirements for asserting your rights under these lemon laws vary from state to state. The coverage time from the vehicle delivery date may be as brief as one year, or as long as two years. An authorized facility must have tried and failed to fix the same or different problem (this depends on how the state law is written) a predetermined number of times, usually three to four attempts.

Alternatively, the car must be out of service and in the repair shop for a specific number of days (usually 30 days, but not necessarily all at the same time) during the coverage period.

In some cases, if you win a lemon law claim you will get what you paid for the car. In other cases, the manufacturer may be allowed to deduct a small percentage of the car's cost for past use prior to the first notification of the defect.

Most states require that before you can sue under a lemon law, or be awarded a new car replacement or refund, you must submit the dispute to a certified arbitration program. Mediators hear both sides of

the dispute, and then make a judgement, which is usually binding on the manufacturer, but not on you.

The key to winning a judgement is to document your case. In other words, you have to dot every "i" and cross every "t". Keep a copy of the warranty repair order for every visit. There is usually no charge, so you'll often have to ask for this. Plan to be persistent.

Most importantly, each repair order must specifically describe the problem using the same words each time, and not just the item that was fixed. In addition, keep careful notes on whom you spoke to, when and what was said. Put all your complaints in writing. Send them certified return receipt requested, and always keep a copy for yourself. Keep emphasizing that you no longer believe this vehicle is reliable.

If you don't win your case in arbitration, you can still bring suit in a higher court. If you decide to seek the advice of an attorney, there are several sources that list the names of lawyers in your area who specialize in handling automotive problems. You can send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Center for Auto Safety, 2001 S. St. NW, Washington, DC 20009, or contact www.autosafety.org/lemon_lawyers.

Fighting a giant auto manufacturer may feel like a scene out of David and Goliath, but the lemon laws are definitely leveling the playing field. With patience, persistence, and careful attention to details, you can turn that lemon into lemonade.

Mary Jackson is the author of "Car Smarts", published by John Muir Publications.

Connell

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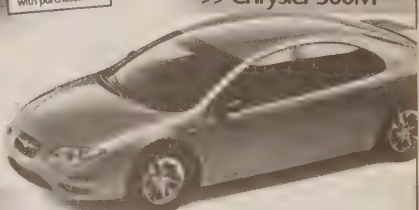
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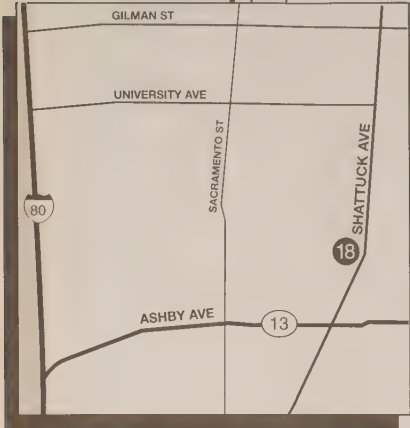
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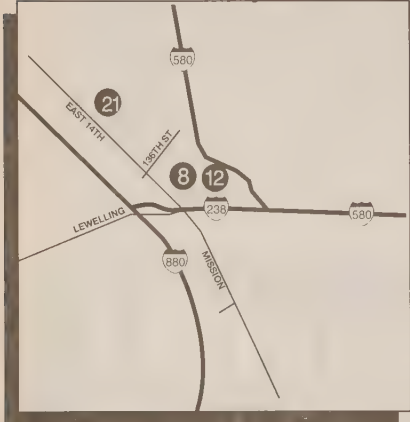
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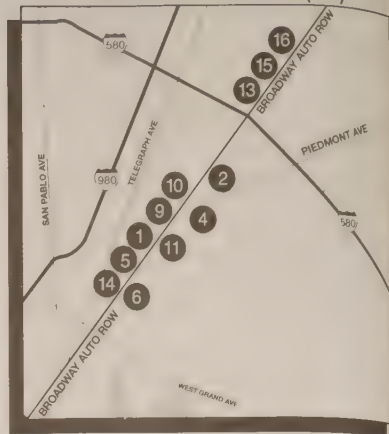
Berkeley (B-3)



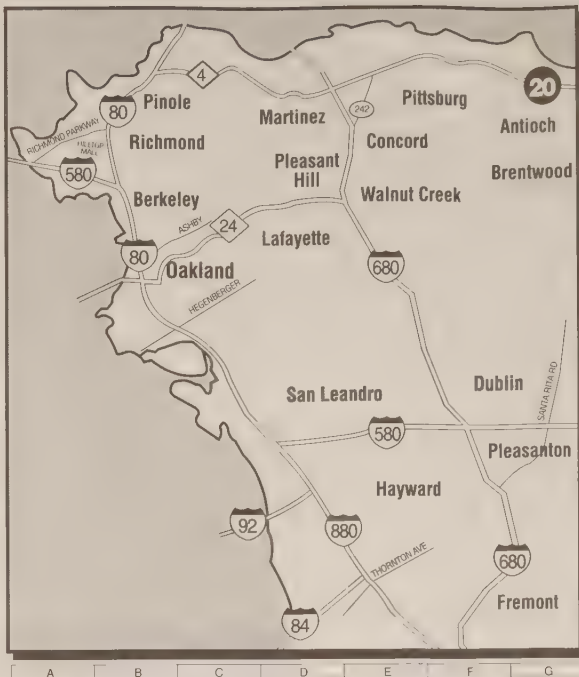
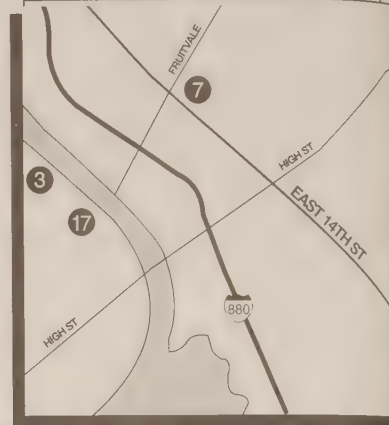
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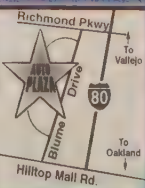
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LEASE FOR ONLY \$329 PER MO. + TAX
\$0 DOWN
4 WHEEL DRIVE • V8 • AUTOMATIC • POWER STEERING • AIR COND. • PLUS MORE!

2000 DODGE DAKOTA

\$12,995 **EQUIPPED, NOT STRIPPED**
AIR COND. • POWER STEERING
SPORT PACKAGE • AM/FM
Selling price \$13,695
College Grad rebate - 400
Commercial rebate - 300
NET PRICE \$12,995

1999 RAM VAN CONVERSION

MARK III \$17,995
AUTO • PS • AIR COND.
CPT. CHAIRS
VISTA BAY WINDOWS
AM/FM CASSETTE
MUCH MORE!
Selling price \$21,195
Mfg. rebate - 2500
College Grad rebate - 400
Commercial rebate - 300
NET PRICE \$17,995
\$2500 Mfg. rebate & \$400 College Grad rebate. Must be recent college grad last 2 yrs. #584520 at this price.

2000 DODGE RAM TRUCK

\$13,995
on every model in stock with MSRP of \$18,410
AUTO • PS
AIR CONDITIONING
PLUS MUCH MORE
Selling price \$15,695
Mfg. rebate - 1000
College Grad rebate - 400
Commercial rebate - 300
NET PRICE \$13,995
Must be recent college grad. Must have valid business license. Excludes leases.

NEGHERBON AUTO CENTER

LINCOLN • MERCURY • DODGE • DODGE TRUCKS • PORSCHE • AUDI • MITSUBISHI

2345 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN OAKLAND
510-893-7282
or Truck Center 510-808-8080
Family owned and operated since 1969. Sé Habla Español

\$400 College Grad Rebate applies to recent college graduates within last 2 years. All prices subject to tax, Lic & doc fees and prior sale limited to dealer stock. All advertised vehicles exclude taxes. 0.9% applies to Caravans and Grand Caravans only. \$2500 Cash back applies to 99 Ram Conversions. Ad expires 2/13/00.

NEGHERBON LINCOLN Mercury

1999 VILLAGER

6 cyl • 7 pass. seating • Pwr seat
Priv. glass • 2-tone paint • much more
\$5500 OFF MSRP
MSRP \$24,285
Dealer discount - 3100
Factory rebate - 2000
College Grad rebate - 400
NET PRICE \$18,785
#151650 at this price

1999 SABLE

LS package • V6 • Auto • Tilt • Cruise
Power locks/windows • Alloy Wheels
Much More
\$5000 OFF MSRP
MSRP \$20,280
Dealer discount - 2600
Factory rebate - 2000
College Grad rebate - 400
NET PRICE \$15,280
#661986 at this price

1999 NAVIGATOR

V8 • 4x4 • Rear Air • Chrome Wheels
Alpine Stereo • 6 CD Changer
Heated Seats
\$39,999
HUGE INVENTORY
WE'RE DEALING!
Selling price \$41,499 less \$1500 factory rebate. #142583 at this price.

2000 MOUNTAINEER

V8 • AWD • Leather • Moon Roof • CD
Chrome Wheels • More
\$5000 OFF MSRP
MSRP \$34,995
Dealer discount - 3600
Factory rebate - 1000
College Grad rebate - 400
NET PRICE \$29,495
#100207 at this price

2000 MYSTIQUE

Power Windows/Locks • Power Seats
ABS • Alloy Wheels • Sports Group
& Much More
\$3000 OFF MSRP
MSRP \$18,675
Dealer discount - 1100
Factory rebate - 1500
College Grad rebate - 400
NET PRICE \$15,675
#409372 at this price

2000 COUGAR

Power Windows/Locks • AM/FM Cass
Tilt • Cruise • Much More
\$14,995
MSRP \$16,670
Dealer discount - 975
Factory rebate - 500
College Grad rebate - 400
NET PRICE \$14,995
#610420 at this price

NEGHERBON AUTO CENTER

2345 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN OAKLAND
510-893-7282

Family owned and operated since 1969. Sé Habla Español

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NEGHERBON MITSUBISHI

0 PAYMENTS UNTIL FEB 2001 **0 INTEREST UNTIL FEB 2001** **0 DOWN PAYMENT NEEDED**
DON'T MISS OUT PROGRAM ENDS SOON

2000 Mirage

\$11,839
Starting At
After \$1000 Factory Rebate
1 at this price #019179

2000 Eclipse

\$16,837
Starting At
22 Available
30 Available
1 at this price #074502

The Mitsubishi Galant Ranked #1 For The First Consecutive Year By Car & Driver

\$15,888
Starting At
After \$750 Factory Rebate
1 at this price #095823

CAR AND DRIVER MAGAZINE RATINGS
#1 MITSUBISHI GALANT ES
#2 HONDA ACCORD LX
#3 OLDSMOBILE ALERO GL
#4 TOYOTA CAMRY LE

*Galant ES V6 ranked first in comparison test of eight family sedans priced under \$20,000 (Car & Driver September 1998). Zero interest till January 2001, zero payment till February 2001. Available through Mitsubishi Motor Credit's Special Diamond Retail Plan subject to approved credit and insurance. Negotiable per lease and get up to \$1000 cash back. Amount varies based on model. Rebate not available on interest rate programs.

2000 Diamante

0 Payments Until February 2001
0 Interest Until February 2001

Large Inventory in Stock

2000 Montero Sport

All New \$20,589
Starting At
V6
After \$750 Factory rebate
1 at this price #033566

NEGHERBON MITSUBISHI

2345 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN OAKLAND
510-893-7282

Family owned and operated since 1969. Sé Habla Español

*Applies to all Mitsubishi financed and approved thru MMCA. Finance charge begins 30 days prior to delivery. 0% interest until February 2001. Customer rebates or dealer incentives cannot be used in conjunction with MMCA or lease programs. Factory rebates and special financing cannot be combined. An approval of credit is required. Tax, title and doc fees. Ad expires 2/13/00.